

F

881

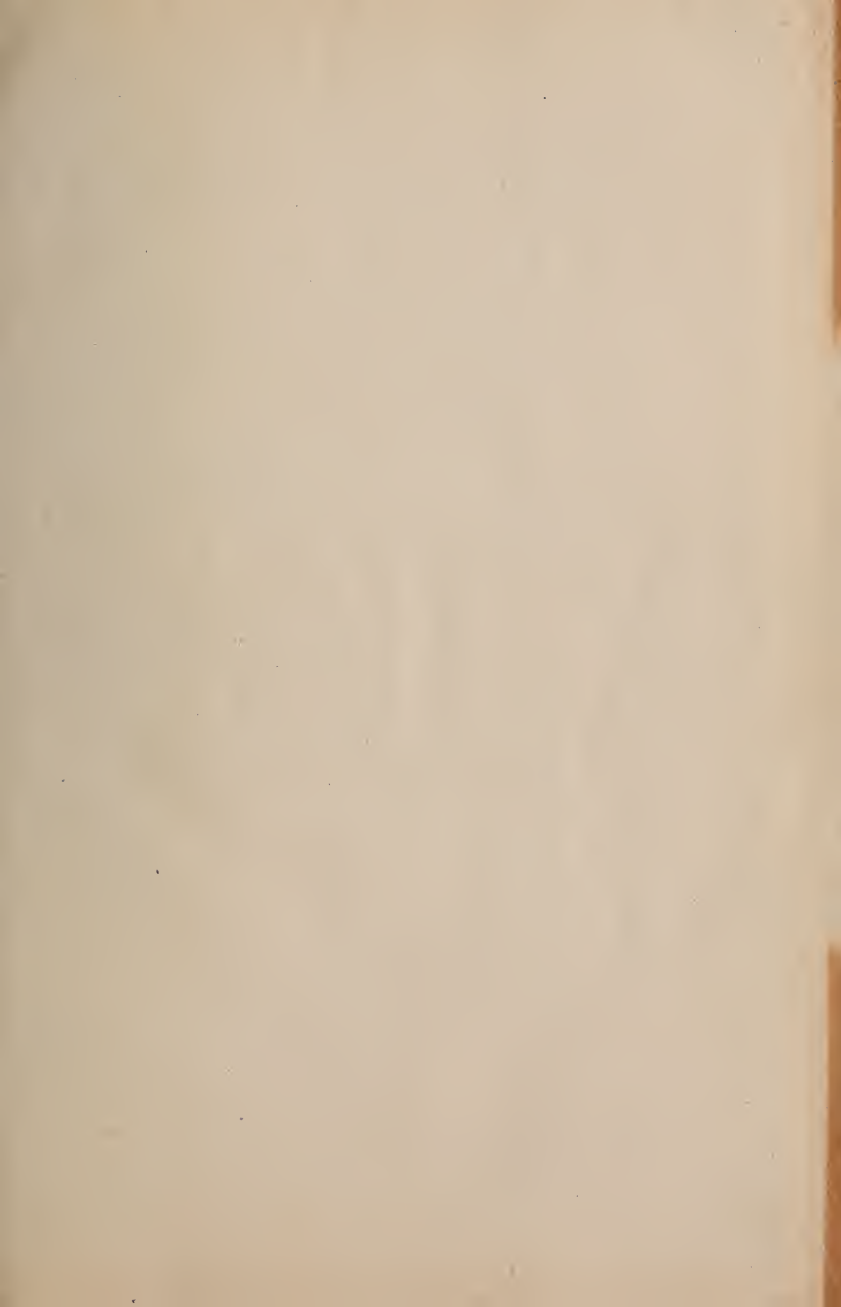
.W19

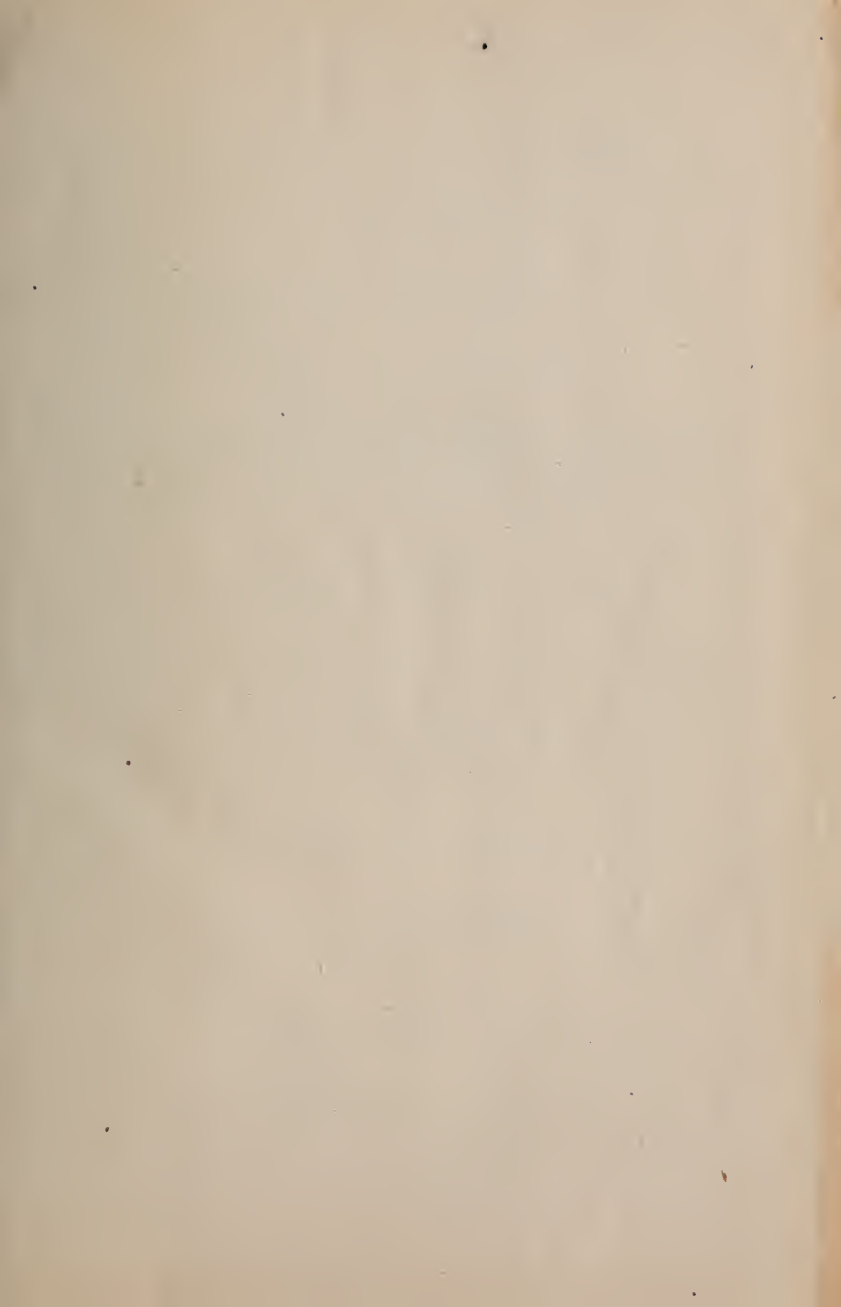
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Chap. F881. Copyright No.

Shelf N.19

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.





NORTHWEST HOMES,
BEING
A BRIEF BUT COMPREHENSIVE VIEW
OF
OREGON ^{AND} WASHINGTON TERRITORY,

IN WHICH
ALL THE COUNTIES ARE DESCRIBED SEPARATELY,
BOTH IN
OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

Chap. Copyright No.

Shelf

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

COMPILED BY ALEX. G. WALLACE.

COPYRIGHT APPLIED FOR.



TO OREGON HOME SEEKERS.

Portland is the great Metropolis of this great Northwest. All western lines of commerce center there, and no combination of any kind can ever detract from her assured future greatness. She has grown in a few years from a mere village to a wealthy and well built city, with a population of about 50,000, aggregating a capital of nearly \$40,000,000. The many advantages of securing a home in close proximity to such a city will be readily apparent.

Next door to, and adjoining this metropolis of wealth and influence, lies the County of Washington, the most fertile and attractive County of our vast domain. Its form is that of a large basin, containing about 300,000 acres of fertile hill, valley, prairie, timber and brush lands, in about equal proportion, the whole of which is well watered by the thousand springs and rivulets that have their sources in the surrounding foot hills.

The soil of this region is a rich sandy loam, unsurpassed anywhere in the world for the production of Grain, Grasses, (especially clover,) can well sustain many times this number.

Through the midst of this section, and conveniently accessible to all parts of it, runs the Oregon and California Railroad, thus connecting us directly and cheaply by four to six trains daily with deep sea commerce and the great Eastern railway system that centres at Portland. Near beautiful and lovely town of FOREST GROVE, a place long since noted for its grand educational facilities, being the seat of Pacific University and the Talatin Academy, which have a large endowment and employ a first-class faculty.

There are many other towns and villages well supplied with schools and churches throughout the county, among which are Hillsboro, Cornelius, Beaverton, Gaston, Glencoe and Greenville.

In selecting a locality for the Real Estate Business, many reasons induced me to locate in Forest Grove, and the same inducement should be sufficient to locate all immigrants in this vicinity who desire to avail themselves of the best opportunities in the best State in the Union to secure homes and grow rich.

A FEW REASONS FOR BUYING A HOME HERE.

First. Its nearness to market and consequent cheap and quick transportation, surpassing nearly all other parts of the Willamette Valley in this particular. Every cent per ton saved on freight goes directly into the producer's pocket.

Second. Extra quality of soil, being able to produce more varieties and better yields of crops than almost any other locality of our State.

Third. The great adaptability of the soil to production of grasses, clover growing with almost unparalleled rankness and richness, thereby making it the great dairy county of the State.

Fourth. Its abundance of never failing spring branches and inexhaustible supply of fine timber in the near foot hills,

Fifth. Protection from too much sea breeze.

Sixth. Great educational advantages and excellent society, and a thousand and one other reasons that will be cheerfully given on application.

Below is given a list of a few of the many tracts of land in this vicinity, in my hands for sale. Prices range from \$4.00 to \$40.00 per acre, according to location and improvements.

Farms for Sale.

No. 3. \$3,700—43 acres, one mile north of Forest Grove. Well improved, good house, barn and outbuildings, in a good community. A fine location for grain, hay and fruit. Terms, \$4,000 cash, balance on time.

No. 4. \$3,200—166 acres, 6 1/2 miles northwest of Forest Grove. 60 acres in cultivation, 10 acres in light brush, which makes about 80 acres in hay, brush and wild, easily cleared, 40 acres of timber; all level land, a good orchard; plenty of small fruit, fair house and barn. This farm is a bargain. Terms, \$1,500 cash, balance on time at 8 per cent interest.

No. 5. \$2,600—160 acres, 2 1/2 miles northwest of Forest Grove; 75 acres in cultivation, 80 acres in light hazel brush and young fir, can be cleared at from \$5 to \$8 per acre. Plenty of water. Land lays well, and is a cheap farm. Terms, \$1,000 cash, balance on time.

No. 6. \$1,500—51 acres, 7 miles north west of Forest Grove; 15 acres in cultivation, balance in light hazel brush, can be cleared at an expense of from \$5 to \$8 per acre. Very good house, cloth and paper, two barns, plenty of fruit, such as apples, peaches and plums. Terms, \$1,000 cash, balance on time.

No. 7. \$4,400—200 acres 6 miles northwest of Forest Grove; 40 acres in cultivation, balance in hazel brush, can be cleared for \$5 per acre. Good young timber, fair house and barn; plenty of outbuildings; all kinds of small fruits; 10 acres in wheat. Terms, \$1,500 cash, balance on time.

No. 10. \$250—32 acres, 3 miles west of Forest Grove, covered with young oak and fir; can all be paid for by hauling wood to town. Would be a fine fruit farm. Terms, \$50 cash, balance on time.

No. 11. \$500—135 acres, 1 1/2 miles from Forest Grove, well situated, all fenced; 6 acres in cultivation; 5 acres cleared, balance in light brush; fair house and barn; good young orchard; plenty of water. Terms, half cash, balance on time.

No. 20. \$1,250—36 acres, 1 1/2 miles southwest of Forest Grove, 1/2 mile from Dilley; 26 acres in cultivation, balance in willow; about 30 acres of this place is leaver-down, a good hay and barn. A very desirable location and cheap.

No. 16. \$1,000—160 acres 2 1/2 miles south of Forest Grove; brush and timber; easily cleared.

No. 21. \$1,650—12 acres, 1 miles northwest of Forest Grove; 25 acres in cultivation, the balance is all cleared and brush burnt and sowed to timothy; is open pasturage. Good orchard; pile of sawed lumber; very good house and barn. Terms, \$1,500 cash, balance to suit purchaser.

No. 25. \$3,300—71 acres, 1/2 mile from Forest Grove; all under fence and is a high state of cultivation. Will sell for \$15 per acre and given lot, with house and barn in town of Forest Grove. This is a number one bargain. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 27. \$1,600—75 acres, 3/4 mile south of Forest Grove; 37 acres clear; 4 acres leaver-down; balance in willow but hard to clear; 1/2 mile from railroad station. All fenced, is a good piece of land, and cheap. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 30. \$3,600—110 acres, 7 miles north of Forest Grove; 70 acres in cultivation, 16 acres in stubble and grass; is splendid pasture. Plenty of outside range for stock. Good orchard and lots of small fruit; 22 acres in grain. Will give one cow stake and one self binder with plow. Terms, about half down, balance on time.

No. 31. \$3,600—201 acres, 8 miles northwest of Forest Grove; 60 acres in cultivation; a splendid house and barn worth \$1,000; good orchard; plenty of water; well fenced, on public road; second hand house in Forest Grove. Terms, \$2,000 down, balance on time.

No. 11. \$200—100 acres, 1 miles southwest of Forest Grove. All brush, easily cleared. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 12. \$1,250—69 acres, 3 miles from Forest Grove; mostly light brush and young fir. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 13. \$820—52 acres, 1 miles from Forest Grove; all lays well; 20 acres cleared. Terms, half down, balance on time.

No. 14. \$900—80 acres, 3 miles from Forest Grove; all lays well. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 15. \$800—120 acres, 3 miles south of Forest Grove; covered with brush and timber.

No. 22. \$6,000—133 acres, 1/2 mile east of Forest Grove; all in a high state of cultivation. This is an excellent farm, in a splendid location; will make a beautiful home. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 23. \$4,000—100 acres, 3 miles southwest of Forest Grove; 70 acres in cultivation, 16 acres in stubble and grass; is splendid pasture. Plenty of outside range for stock. Good orchard and lots of small fruit; 22 acres in grain. Will give one cow stake and one self binder with plow. Terms, about half down, balance on time.

No. 31. \$3,600—201 acres, 8 miles northwest of Forest Grove; 60 acres in cultivation; a splendid house and barn worth \$1,000; good orchard; plenty of water; well fenced, on public road; second hand house in Forest Grove. Terms, \$2,000 down, balance on time.

No. 11. \$200—100 acres, 1 miles southwest of Forest Grove. All brush, easily cleared. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 12. \$1,250—69 acres, 3 miles from Forest Grove; mostly light brush and young fir. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 13. \$820—52 acres, 1 miles from Forest Grove; all lays well; 20 acres cleared. Terms, half down, balance on time.

No. 14. \$900—80 acres, 3 miles from Forest Grove; all lays well. Terms to suit purchaser.

No. 15. \$800—120 acres, 3 miles south of Forest Grove; covered with brush and timber.

No. 22. \$6,000—133 acres, 1/2 mile east of Forest Grove; all in a high state of cultivation. This is an excellent farm, in a splendid location; will make a beautiful home. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 24. \$4,400—30 acres, 3 miles southwest of Forest Grove, 2 acres in cultivation, 30 acres in light brush, balance in timber; all under fence; good house, barn and outbuildings. This is a cheap farm. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 34. \$4,400—120 acres, 9 miles northwest of Forest Grove. 15 acres in cultivation; 80 acres fenced in convenient fields; 5 acres in grain; 20 acres in meadow; stumps still standing, but brush all burned off; 50 acres in light hazel brush, can be cleared at an expense of \$5 per acre. Box house, Good orchard, and plenty of small fruits. Terms, \$800 down, balance to suit.

No. 25. \$1,250—55 acres 1 1/2 miles from Forest Grove, 35 acres fenced, 25 acres slash and small wood (to graze); brush all cleared off but stumps still remain; 5 acres in high state of cultivation. Fair house, land all lays well, and of excellent quality. This is a very cheap place. Half cash, balance on time.

No. 26. \$3,100—81 acres 3/4 miles northwest of Forest Grove. 17 acres in cultivation, good house and barn. All under fence. Plenty of timber. Good rich bottom land. Terms, easy.

No. 37. \$4,800—216 per acre. A bargain. 160 acres 2 1/2 miles southwest of Forest Grove. About 20 acres in cultivation; 20 acres slash; balance mostly light fir and hazel brush. All under fence. Good house, fair barn. A very desirable location, in a well settled neighborhood. Church on place. School house in half a mile. Terms, \$1,000, balance on time.

No. 28. \$3,900—150 acres half mile north of Dilley, 3 miles from Forest Grove, 521 per acre. About 40 acres in cultivation; 50 acres slash; brush all burned and sowed to timothy, a splendid pasture. Balance is covered with light young fir. All fenced and lays well. Well watered by running stream and spring. This is certainly a bargain. Will sell 100 acres off if desired. Terms, one third down, balance in two and two years.

No. 40. \$850—50 acres 3 miles south of Corvallis. 15 acres in cultivation; one slash; about 10 acres fenced. Land lays well, and can all be cultivated. Is now covered with a young growth of fir and hazel. Plenty of running water, and a cheap place. Terms, one half down, balance in one or two years time.

No. 11. \$1,800—80 acres 1 1/2 miles from Dilley. 10 acres in cultivation. About 20 acres fenced. A house and barn. Well watered by running stream and spring. Covered with willow, alder and fir, easy to clear. Land all lays well. Will make a nice home. Plenty of outside range for stock. Terms, one third down, balance on time.

No. 42. \$2,300—189 acres, 2 miles south of Wapato Station, on O. & C. R. R. 50 acres in cultivation. Balance covered with young fir and oak. Some very rich bottom land on place, and remainder excellent pasture land. Box house and small barn; abundance of running water. 100 acres under fence; 60 young fruit trees and some small fruits. Terms, \$1,000 down, balance in two and three years.

No. 43. \$2,600—500 acres, only \$25 per acre. All choice wheat land, 14 miles southwest of Forest Grove. 200 acres in cultivation upon which grow the best grapes in grain and hay. Satisfactorily watered by running stream and spring. 70 acres over 10 with young oak and fir, but hard to clear. Land all lays well, and is all fenced. Abundance of fruit of all kinds. Very good house, splendid barn worth \$1,000, 2000 feet, with saw business. This is an old settled and splendid farm. Very suitable location for raising grain, hay and stock, and a good bargain. Terms, one third down, balance to suit purchaser.

No. 44. \$600—80 acres of splendid land in T. 1, N. of R. 4, W. Four miles from Forest Grove. All brush and under, but not hard to clear. Well located for fruit growing, especially for grapes and berries. Terms, \$100 down, balance on time.

No. 45. \$1,000—12 acres of land adjoining the town of Conterville, 1/2 miles from Forest Grove. All in a high state of cultivation. Fine large house, well furnished throughout, worth \$800. A fine location for a country merchant. Terms, one half cash, balance on time.

No. 46. \$1,200—80 acres 3 miles southeast of Gaston, N. E. of S. W. 1, Sec. 15, T. 2, S. R. 4, W. 60 acres under fence; 10 acres grubbed and in grain; 50 acres slash, poles piled and all needed to grass. Fair barn, 20x50. House of four rooms. Plenty of outbuildings. A fine spring near the house. School house one half mile distant. Terms, one half down, balance on time.

I must have a large list of Town property in Forest Grove for sale cheap and on the most reasonable terms, both improved and unimproved. Prices and full information given on application.

Now, if you want a home in the Garden of the Northwest, surrounded by good schools, excellent society, convenient to market, where timber and water are plentiful, and where crops never fail, come and select a home in the vicinity of Forest Grove. Correspondence solicited and all possible information concerning this section cheerfully given.

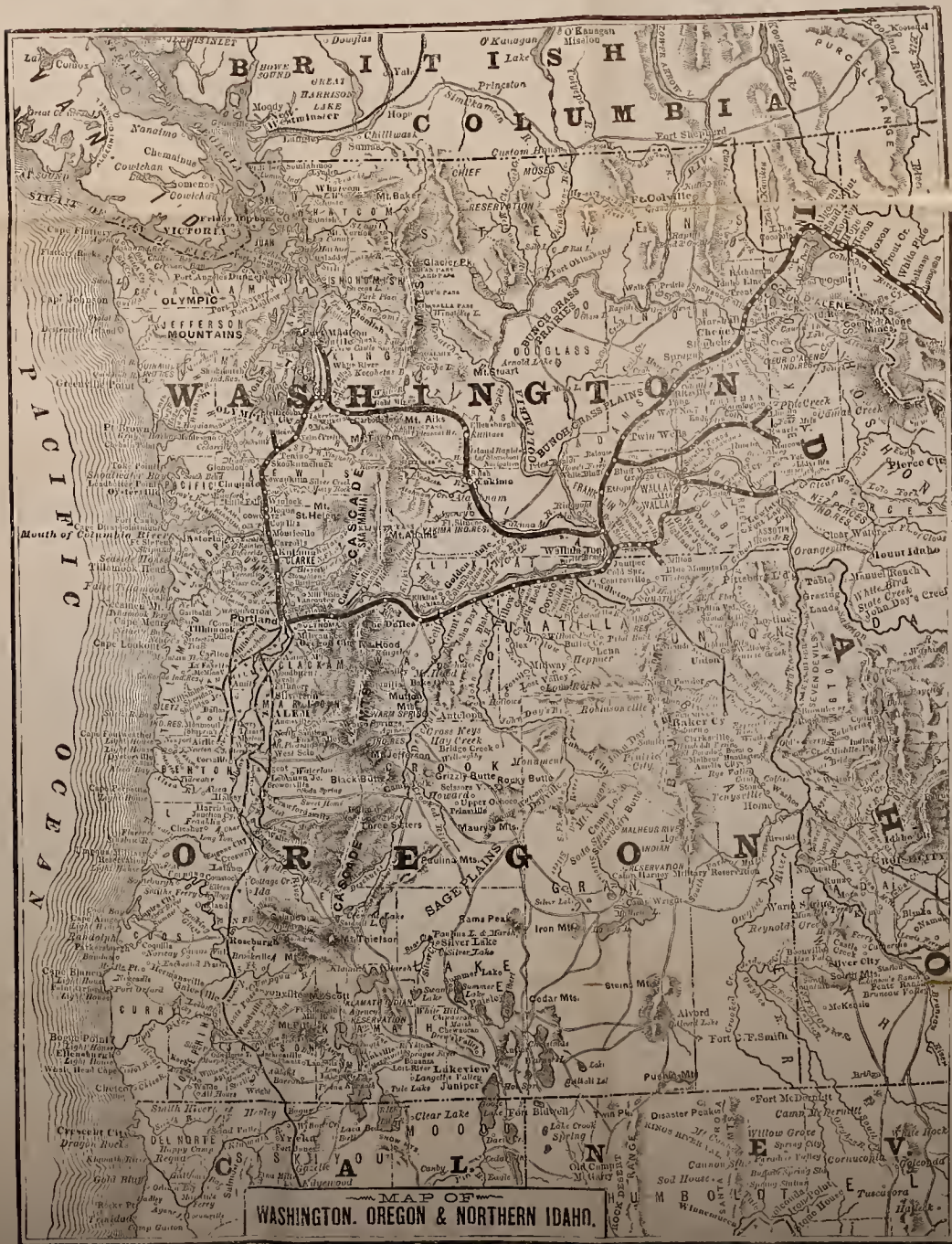
I drive a free team, and invite all immigrants to avail themselves of this opportunity of inspecting any and all lands in my hands for charge. Buy your tickets for Forest Grove, take no other, and board the West Side train at the Oregon and California depot, Portland, at 7:30 A. M. or 4:50 P. M., and on arrival enquire for

E. E. MILLER,

Real Estate Agent, Forest Grove, Oregon.

E. E. MILLER,

Real Estate Agent,



Forest Grove, Oregon.



No. 1. house and in T. 1, N. of R. 4, W. Four miles from Forest Grove. All
 No. 11 me. Well located for fruit growing, especially for grapes and
 No. 12 me. the town of Centerville, 4 miles from Forest Grove. All
 suit purchase house, well finished throughout, worth \$800. A fine
 No. 13 one-half down, balance on time.
 No. 14 west of Gaston, N. 1/2 of N. W. 1/4, Sec. 15, T. 2, S. R. 4, W. 60
 in grain: 50 acres slashed, poles piled and all seeded to grass.
 No. 15 Plenty of outbuildings. A fine spring near the house.
 No. 16 one-half down, balance on time.
 No. 22 an excellent on time.

I the terms, both improved and unimproved.

Prices
 Excellent society, convenient to market, where
 Forest Grove. Correspondence solicited
 timber and a

MARKERS.

e there, and no combination of any kind can
 latic a wealthy and well built city, with a popu-
 will ing a home in close proximity to such a city.

of o gton, the most fertile and attractive County
 equ ley, prairie, timber and brush lands, in about
 Frun e soil and numerous undeveloped resources

us d on and California Railroad, thus connecting
 the way system that centres at Portland. Near
 beat n and California Railroad, is situated the
 Tual ss, being the seat of Pacific University and

nel in e county, among which are Hillsboro, Cor-

be s st Grove, and the same inducement should

NORTHWESTERN HOMES.

BEING A BRIEF BUT COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF

Oregon and Washington Territory.

IN WHICH ALL THE COUNTIES ARE DESCRIBED SEPARATELY

BOTH IN OREGON AND WASHINGTON.

“A home is a home if ever so poor.”

4
3138
COMPILED BY ALEX. C. WALLACE.

18
COPYRIGHT APPLIED FOR.



PORTLAND, OREGON:

F. A. DUNHAM, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.

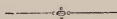
1888.

"Copyrighted 1888."

F 881
W 19

1-21764-M1

INTRODUCTION.



In introducing this little work to the public, the author begs leave to state that he is not a college graduate, but that he only received a country school education, and therefore he hopes that his readers will excuse all ungrammatical sentences that may occur in this little volume. This work was not written for the benefit of Harvard graduates, or college professors, but solely for the benefit of homeseekers, who may be interested in this particular section of Uncle Sam's domain. There have been several small pamphlets published concerning Oregon, some gotten up by the railroad companies, and some by the immigration bureau. It is a well known fact that the railroad company will brag up and make a paradise out of any place, where their road leads into, so they can sell tickets and railroad lands; while immigration bureaus generally exalt certain localities at the expense of others.

The author is not interested in either railroad or immigration bureau. A great portion of this work is derived from my own personal experience and observations, and the rest is from perfectly reliable sources.

I am under obligations to the Oregonian for aid in this work, also to the Coos County Herald, and, last but

INTRODUCTION.

not least to Mr. Clayton Packard, editor of the Eye, at Snohomish City, W. T.

Hoping this work will be received in a kindly spirit,
I remain, the home-seekers friend,

Respectfully Yours,

ALEXANDER C. WALLACE,

O R E G O N.

WESTERN OREGON.

What is commonly called Western Oregon is that part of the state west of the Cascade mountains and south from the Columbia river to the Umpqua river valley. It is divided into four natural sections, called the east and west sides, the Columbia river section and the coast section, and comprises thirteen counties, namely: Multomah, Clackamas, Marion, Linn, Lane, Douglass, Columbia, Clatsop, Washington, Yamhill, Tillamook, Polk and Benton.

Western Oregon is the famed webfoot country, so nicknamed for its moist climate, but the banter is easily endured when it is considered that the frequent rains secure a mild and equable climate and all the advantages of constant fertility. This is the section occupied by the original settlers of the country and it has always been the most populous and advanced part of Oregon. It has four general lines of railroad, two on each side of the Willamette river, possesses all but three or four of the considerable towns of the state, has various fine educational institutions, and is in all respects a thoroughly established country with little of the new element of population and nothing of the reckless spirit of a new country.

The chief county in point of wealth and population in Western Oregon is

MULTNOMAH.

The area of Multnomah is least of any county in the state, and its percentage of good land is less than any other county in Oregon, but it contains the City of Portland which alone puts it at the head of the list. Multnomah, however, is not without agricultural resources; the low lands extending along the Columbia river are not sufficiently broad for the raising of grain in profitable quantities, but they are highly fertile and well adapted for small fruits, market gardening and dairying, and their nearness to Portland, and its constant market for produce are great advantages. No agricultural lands in Oregon are so profitably worked as are the fields of this narrow district, and yet, there is space for a much greater production, for which there is a sure market in Portland at high prices. The hills west and south of Portland though rough are rich and thrifty, orchards and farms abound in them. In this mild climate it is not necessary to seek for sheltered nooks. Multnomah county has little or no farming land in the ordinary sense, but it has considerable areas finely adapted to the most profitable class of rural industries. There is great need of market gardeners and dairymen in this county. The Portland market is so illy furnished with produce and dairy products that it imports fully half of its annual supply from California. Butter is even brought across the continent. Prices for all kinds of produce are high, fully forty per cent. higher than in Eastern and Western States, and the misfit of the supply and the demand is due almost wholly to the limited number of producers, and to their lack of enterprise. The City of Portland is treated of elsewhere in this book and need not be mentioned here.

CLACKAMAS

County lies directly south of Multnomah. It is much larger than its neighbor, covering an area of nearly 1500 square miles. The greater part of this wide territory is hilly or mountainous and much of it is of but little value except for timber, and as a stock range. It has much good valley and prairie land however, and its annual surplus of grain is large. The level tracts of Clackamas county are occupied, but in the foothills there is still much valuable space open to settlement under the government land laws, or to be bought on easy terms from the O. & C. R. R. Co. which acquired its lands by grant from Congress. A considerable district of Clackamas County is within easy drive of Portland, and so available as a field of domestic production. Market gardening, for the products of which there is so great a demand, can be carried on with profit as well in Clackamas as Multnomah, and the hill and foothill lands in the northern and eastern part of the county are admirably adapted to dairying. The range is good throughout the year so that but little feed is used in winter, excepting for milch cows, and from the rough character of the country much of it will remain unsettled, and free open range for many years. Clackamas has several towns, but none of much importance except Oregon City. It was the pioneer town of Oregon, and though its destiny is not in keeping with the ambitious hopes of its founders who expected to see it rival San Francisco, it is a place of considerable and growing importance. It has twenty or more stores, a large woolen mill, two large merchant flouring mills and a general assortment of the trades. But it is destined in time, and we hope the time is not to be long, to become a seat of manufacture. The Willamette Falls, just at hand afford a water power which never fails or freezes, and which is sufficient to turn the mills of the gods; the woolen and

other mills of Oregon City are all run by the power of the falls. In the western part of the county and about midway between Oregon City and Portland there are large iron deposits which have been worked successfully for several years. The works at a village called Oswego, on the banks of the Willamette are soon to be enlarged, machinery for an establishment to employ a thousand men being now on the ground. The population of Clackamas County is not far below 18,000, and the county is well provided with schools and churches. Clackamas has four rivers running through it, viz: Willamette, Clackamas, Molalla and Pudding rivers, and the three named are full of good fish, and plenty of wild game such as ducks and geese, and there are pheasants, grouse and quail, and plenty of deer and bear out in the mountains. Improved farms are cheap in this county, \$1,500 will buy a good 80 acre farm with buildings and improvements; farm laborers receive from twenty to thirty dollars per month and board. School teachers get thirty to forty-five dollars per month and board. There are also eleven saw-mills in this county.

MARION.

Is another of the east side counties and is situated directly south of Clackamas. Its eastern boundary is the Cascade range of mountains, and the Willamette river separates it on the west from Polk and Yamhill Counties. It extends for about sixty-five miles north and south along the river and its north and south boundary lines almost meet at the mountains. Marion strictly speaking is an agricultural county. Its general character is flat, though it has a good area of foothill country in its eastern and northern sections. It is finely wooded and watered throughout. Its chief product is wheat, of which it is one of the largest producers in the State. It has long been

settled, and throughout presents the settled features of an established country. Except in the foothills it has not much vacant land. The prairie sections are all owned by individuals, and almost the entire area is under cultivation. Like all the counties of Western Oregon, Marion is finely adapted for dairying. The unfailing moisture keeps the pastures green the season through. Vegetables and fruits yield magnificent crops. The principle town in Marion county is Salem, which is the capital of the state, and the seat of all the state institutions. The city has about 7000 people and takes rank in the points of population, wealth and volume of business next to Portland. It has a fine water power and is already a seat of manufacture, as well as a large farming center. The Willamette university one of the oldest schools in the state is located at Salem. Good improved farms in Marion county can be bought for from twenty to forty dollars per acre.

LANE

County lies south of Linn county. It extends east and west from the Pacific ocean to the Cascade mountains, a distance of 120 miles and covers an area of 120 townships. Fully two-thirds of this great area is capable of cultivation, and not more than one-third of it is occupied. The population of Lane, which is now in the neighborhood of 14,000, could with advantage, be multiplied many times over. Most of the county is rough and mountainous, but even its highest points are available for pasturage, which is green and good the whole year through. Hops and wheat are the chief products of the county. Wool, too, is grown but not in such quantity as would be expected in a country so well adapted to sheep. The opportunities for enterprise in this line are fine. Good sheep ranches may be bought cheap, and the outside range to be had for nothing is as wide as could be

desired. An important and rich section of Lane county lies along the coast. The Siuslaw river, a fine stream, puts into the ocean at the western extreme of the county, and along its valley there are large tracts of excellent land. About seventy families have settled there in the past seven years, and the section is certain in a short time to be well populated. Siuslaw river is easily entered by schooners, but as it has never been regularly surveyed by government engineers insurance companies will not underwrite vessels putting in there, and the people have difficulty to receive goods or ship their products. Having to take their own risk vessel owners charge unusually high prices, and the hardship falls upon the people. The government ought to survey this bar at once. The Siuslaw is a fine fish stream and the salmon put up there by a local cannery command a high price in the San Francisco market. Land in Lane county is comparatively cheap, and in great supply, while educational and other growth of civilization have been long established. Lane county offers a field for more varied industry than any other of the Western Oregon counties. The grain farmer, the stock raiser, the hop grower, the lumberman, the dairyman and a score of others find the conditions for their different occupations at hand, while the comparative cheapness of lands, its character and a climate somewhat more genial than that of the northern counties are potent inducements. The county is gradually receiving an excellent class of newcomers, and as a consequence business of every kind is prosperous. This is particularly apparent in Eugene, which for many years has gone along in a humdrum dead-and-alive state. Eugene is one of the pleasantest places of residence in the state. It has the constant attractions of cheerful and beautiful scenery, and of location near the river, and during the summer months it enjoys the wholesome ventilation of the ocean breeze. Its streets are regularly laid

out; and are better shaded than those of any other in the state. The state university is the chief distinction of Eugene, and a great feature in its social life. From it the place takes a high moral and intellectual tone and this is an advantage it will always enjoy. The population of Eugene City is 3,200 and its business is that of a thrifty country center. There are also over a dozen other smaller towns in the county. To the man of limited means I do not think Lane county will fail to suit him, or to the man with capital for there are numerous openings for all kinds of business. Land is far cheaper here than in Marion county. I believe I have said all that is necessary concerning Lane county. We will now pass on to a review of

LINN

County which lies just south of Marion and which shares with the latter its eastern and western boundaries; is the southernmost of the eastside counties. Like Marion it is an agricultural county, and it has too, some fine water power and the beginning of a manufacturing industry. Linn county produces large quantities of wheat and flax, and stock raising is carried on in a limited way in many parts of the county. The principal town in Linn county is Albany, which occupies a pretty, level site on the bank of the Willamette river. It has a population of about 3,500 and is the center of a large farming district. Like Salem it has a fine water power and three large flouring mills are run by it. While Albany cannot be said to be a progressive town, it is a thoroughly established and substantial one, and as the population about it increases its business will increase, and its property values advance. Brownsville, Lebanon, Halsey and Harrisburg are thriving towns, each with its share of local business. The Brownsville woolen mills is one of the best manufacturing establishments in the state. Most of the prairie

land in Linn county and in fact all the land in the neighborhood of the railroad is in the hands of individuals who ask high prices—from \$15 to \$70 per acre—but there are fine locations in the foothills which may be taken up at the cheap state and government rate, under the land laws, or bought from the railroad company. Linn county has more foothill land than any other. It is so commonly believed that all the land in the Willamette valley is occupied that new comers looking for locations on unimproved lands are never directed that way. Unless the intending settler has capital and desires to buy an improved tract he is told on all sides that it is useless to go into Western Oregon. It is a fact which seems not to be generally known that some of the best areas of unsettled land in the Northwest lie in the foothills on both sides of the Willamette river. It has not been occupied because it is from twenty to thirty miles from transportation lines, but this disadvantage of location is not so great as it appears for stock raising, sheep farming and for various other branches of rural industry, the little isolation is no disadvantage at all, but rather a benefit because of the wider outside range for grazing which it affords. The lands in question are of four classes—government, state, railroad and university—and they may be obtained cheaply and on easy terms. In Lane, Benton, Polk, Yamhill, Clackamas and Washington counties, similar opportunities exist. And it may be said that other conditions being equal, Western Oregon offers in its climate and soil, abundant timber, good water, and proximity to markets, advantages which are lacking in the great region east of the Cascades. Western Oregon is by no means filled up and there is plenty of room for thousands of families to find and enjoy a comfortable home in a land free from tornadoes, cyclones and earthquakes. Here in this part of the country, the industrious immigrant of small means from the east or south may purchase improved lands at

from \$5 to \$25 per acre, upon which a comfortable home for life may be made, no place in America where a living can be more easily made. He may here raise wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed, apples, pears, plums, prunes, quinces, cherries, blackberries, grapes, strawberries and other small fruits and berries, besides garden vegetables, such as potatoes, cabbages, beans, peas, onions, radishes, tomatoes, parsnips, turnips, and in fact every variety of vegetable suitable to the climate of the temperate zone. All of these, cultivated and cared for in the proper manner, yield abundant returns. Here, he may have a few hogs for his own meat, besides some bacon to sell. A few good milk cows for butter which, if fine grade, always sells for ready cash. The sluggard will find it hard to make a living here, and should not come. The shiftless will wage an unequal warfare in the battle of life here as he does elsewhere. There is no room for him here. If the intending immigrant has been led to believe that he can live in luxury and ease here without labor, if he has become imbued with the belief that a fortune, or even a good living for his family can be acquired here without the exercise of great care, much hard labor and a spirit of determination to succeed, as well as the greatest industry, let him at once be undeceived. The kind of people needed here are those who can take off their coats and by hard labor and industry make the wild forest to blossom as the rose.

The yield of wheat ranges from fifteen to forty-five bushels per acre, and the quality is unsurpassed even by the choice wheat grown on the famous wheat fields of Minnesota and California. It often weighs as high as sixty-five pounds to the measured bushel. Oats often yield 60 to 70 bushels per acre, and a measured bushel will weigh from 39 to 43 pounds.

I will now give a brief review of

DOUGLAS

County, which is the southernmost of the so-called Western Oregon counties. Like Lane county which lies directly to the north, it extends from the Cascade mountains to the ocean. Its population is thinner in proportion to its area than is that of any of the other long settled counties. The long distance from the Portland market and the consequent high freight rate has hindered the general production of grain for export, which in all the Willamette valley counties is the chief industry. Still, some hundred of tons of wheat are shipped from the Douglas county warehouse each year. The famous Umpqua river runs its whole length through Douglas county, and in its valleys are found the best farming lands of the county. The general character of Douglas county is rolling, and it affords for sheep the finest range in the world. Not even the famous highlands of Scotland are better adapted for the production of fine and firm wools. The climate is somewhat dryer and warmer than that of the northern counties, and all the conditions of range are favorable. So marked is the superiority of the Umpqua valley wool, that it has always been a favorite in the market, and brings from two to six cents per pound more than the ordinary wools of the country. The flocks of the Umpqua valley form a large feature of its wealth, but the free public range would easily support 10 sheep for every one now upon it. Fruits of all the temperate kind grow well in the Umpqua valley as elsewhere in Western Oregon. There are fine patches of timber in all parts of the county, and along the coast are magnificent forests of fir and spruce. The latter are fast being worked up in the large export mills at Gardiner, a village on the lower Umpqua river near the ocean. The exports of Douglas county are lumber, fruit, wheat, wool, cattle and general produce. In every branch of production

there is room for tenfold expansion. Land is much cheaper than in the Willamette valley, and the country is fairly well provided with school and church facilities. The chief town of Douglas county is Roseburg which is near the center and on the line of the Oregon and California railroad. A railroad to connect Roseburg with the coast part of Coos Bay is projected, and this will certainly add largely to its importance. The population of Roseburg is about 1500. A large portion of the vast territory embraced in this county remains unsettled and unsurveyed, and nearly all of it will be valuable either for timber, agriculture or grazing. East of Roseburg is a vast section of country undeveloped, and we might add, unexplored, as but little is known of it. The Smith river country, lying north and west of Drain station, is perhaps the best part of the unsettled portion of the county. The river heads in the mountains some fifteen miles due north of the town of Drain, and flows nearly due west, and empties into the bay or inlet at the mouth of the Umpqua, two miles below the town of Scottsburg. The east fork some five miles above its junction flows through a beautiful level plain, from one-half to two miles wide on either side of the stream, with small fir timber near the banks, showing that the country has once been a burn. The land close to the banks of the stream is higher than back near the hills, where numerous prairies of swamp grass, with scarcely any timber abound, some of them containing from fifty to one hundred acres, in a place which to make them first class farming lands, needs nothing but a drain to the river. From the forks down to tidewater, a distance of eighteen or twenty miles, the bottoms on each side are similar, save that the growth of timber is larger. Considerable logging has been done on the lower part of the stream. The foothills or bench land next to the bottoms are covered for nearly the entire length of the river

with a large growth of heavy fir timber of the best quality. The drifts have been cleared out so that saw-logs can be floated down the entire length of the stream. There are numerous small streams flowing from the mountains on either side of the river, with bottoms in many places sufficiently wide to make good farms. Within the past year a number of persons have settled on the east fork of the river and are about to commence building a wagon road from Drain across the mountains to their settlement, which will in time be extended down the river to tidewater

We will now proceed to a description of

COLUMBIA

County. Public estimation has held the county south of the Columbia river, and north and west of Portland, as a rough, mountainous district, excepting in spots near the river, almost valueless but for its timber. On the contrary it is a region of surpassing excellence, and affords opportunities for a great variety of enterprises. The first interest of any region is, of course, in its adaptability for general settlement, and the country lying along the Columbia river is naturally highly favored in this respect. For fifty miles north from the foot of Sauvie's island, along the river, and for several miles back from the river the country is wooded, but not wholly with the dense forest growth, seen in passing up and down on the boats, and which seem to extend inland indefinitely. Each of the many creeks, which find their way into the Columbia, drains a wide area of bottom land, generally lightly overgrown with ash or maple, and the higher lands which nowhere rise into mountains, are fertile and easily susceptible of cultivation. These lands are not attractive to general immigrants from a prairie country, but they meet the taste of comers from timber countries. It costs more to get a farm under way there than a prai-

rie district, but there are many who deem the special expense more than compensated by the advantages of location in a timbered region and near water transportation to market. The lands in this river district ought to be public, but they have been gobbled up by speculators till nearly every foot is owned. The greater part of it is for sale at about double the government rate or \$4 per acre. They yield fruit and vegetables in abundance, and are finely adapted for dairying. Among the settlers now in the country, not one who in the beginning was able to fairly establish himself has failed to thrive. Aside from farming and stock raising, and the general tradeswork necessary in every community, the chief industry is logging. The heaviest logs are easily floated down the creeks in the wet seasons, and nearly every farmer is, to a greater or less extent, a logger also. Millions of feet of timber are floated out each year, and the proceeds of its sale are largely applied to the development of the country. The logging industry while it cuts down the timber, helps clear the land, leaving it available for all-the-year-round pasture, even before the stumps and small brush are removed. Logging progresses at all seasons, and affords steady employment to all who choose to work at it for wages. Many settlers put in such time as they can there in opening their farms and earn their maintenance in the logging camp. Another industry which engages men of small capital and rewards them fairly, is that of making shingles. There are, too, a few portable sawmills, which with the labor of three or four men can cut three or four thousand feet of cedar per day. The resources of this section in iron, coal, and water power are sufficiently well known, and in course of time, things will without doubt be developed. To the settler however, these advantages are of no value. The river section is already so well settled, as to be provided with school and mail facilities and

it is well provided with market and shipping points in St. Helens, Columbia City, Rainier and Westport. A great many of the farmers living on the banks of the Columbia make considerable money in the fishing business. Catching salmon pays well this fall, they get four cents a pound for all they can catch, and some days they catch from five to twenty fish to the man, and each salmon will weigh from 15 to 45 pounds.

CLATSOP

County is the extreme northwest county of Oregon. Its area is nearly equal to that of Clackamas, but it has comparatively little bad land. Its best agricultural lands are along the tide sloughs which indent its frontage on the Columbia and its bottom lands near its dozens of creeks and rivers. The largest body of level land extends along the coast south of the entrance to the Columbia river, and is known as Clatsop plain. The first agricultural settlement in Oregon was here. From Astoria a few settlers found their way to the stretch of rolling prairie by the ocean, and from that time, till now, it has been the seat of a fairly prosperous agricultural industry. Clatsop plain is about twenty miles long north and south and varies in width from one to two miles. Its soil is a light loam and sand, easily cultivated and highly productive. Its climate is the ordinary climate of Western Oregon in winter with a constant moisture in Summer, which keeps its pastures always green. Everywhere it is well watered, and timber in abundance borders the eastern margin. The chief industry of Clatsop plain is that of butter and cheese manufacture. In no locality in the wide world are the conditions for dairying more favorable than here. An unfailing verdure, a cool and equable climate, rich native grasses, abundance of pure, fresh water, nearness to market, all the conditions are there in perfection and all made highly valuable by constant demand

and high prices for dairy products. But with all these advantages Clatsop plain is only fairly prosperous. It could easily support fifty cows for every one that now grazes upon it. Satisfied with "well enough" the people live along in a quiet way and allow the finest opportunities to pass unimproved. An infusion of enterprise into the "strip by the sea" would make it one of the finest localities in Oregon. The favorite watering place in Oregon is Clatsop beach. Along the tide lands and creek bottoms mentioned above, there are large settlements and all are prosperous. The conditions of life in these localities are not luxurious, but they are by no means hard for those who have industry. Travel everywhere is by water and settlers go by steamboats, or in their own boats propelled by sail or oar. Communication with the market town of Astoria is cheap and easy, and the residents think themselves better off than those, who must get to market by road or rail. The products of the county are the general agricultural products of Western Oregon. In no county in the state is there such a variety of employment for the wage worker. It is estimated that a million and a half of dollars is paid out annually for labor in fishing and logging. It is a common thing for immigrants to settle upon government land, which may be had for the taking, and to work in the fisheries in summer, or the logging camps in winter, the while making such improvements on their settlements as they can. To clear a place in the timber is the work of half a lifetime, but it may be done by degrees at a comparatively light cost. For dairying—and in this branch we believe the opportunities are more inviting than in any other—it is not necessary to clear the land. If it be thoroughly burned over and grass seed sown in the ashes, it yields fine crops which cattle easily harvest for themselves. Being near the coast, snows are infrequent and never lie

on the ground longer than a few hours. Three-fourths of the land of Clatsop county is mountainous and only valuable for their splendid forests of timber. I have seen a seven acre tract produce \$14,000 in saw logs, and 400 cords of wood, which at \$3,00 per cord brought \$1,200. Of course it took lots of money to put this amount of saw logs in the river, from where they are towed by steamboat to some of the large sawmills in Astoria, Portland, or some of the mills along the majestic Columbia. The logs are, after being dumped in the water, constructed into a huge raft, held by boom logs, and 600,000 feet is no uncommon size for these rafts. This year the loggers get \$5 per thousand for choice large logs, and less for small logs, and for piling they get six cents a lineal foot, and they are cut from twenty to seventy feet long. Good men are paid the following wages in the Columbia river logging camps. Ox teamsters, called here "bullwhackers" get the highest wages, from \$80 to \$120 a month and board. Sawyers get \$60 to \$70. Swampers and barkers get from \$45 to \$60 a month, skidders the same as sawyers, and greasers \$50 a month. Young men of the east, do you realize the difference in the wages you receive in the east, and the wages that are paid here, and besides, here you would only work ten hours while in the east a hired man must work on the farm till sundown, and then milk three or four cows after supper. There are several hundreds of logging camps in Western Washington Territory alone, and most all of them run nine months in the year, and some of them run the entire year. There are also hundreds of sawmills and they run the year round and furnish employment to thousands of men who receive big wages, and then three out of every five of these men, when they work four or five months, will go to Portland, and in a few days or weeks they haven't got a dollar left, then they will go

back to some other camp or sawmill and go to work again. What is wanted in this country is steady, sober, industrious young men, that know how to save their money when they earn it.

We will now give a brief review of

TILLAMOOK

County, which is a strip along the coast, south of Clatsop county. It is about seventy-five miles long, north and south, with an average width of thirty miles. It is very sparsely settled, owing to its isolation heretofore, but a schooner freight line has been put into service between Tillamook bay and the markets of Astoria and Portland, and the trip is now easily and quickly made and rates for freights and passage are low. The country is finely adapted to small farming and dairying, and stock raising, and land is literally "dirt cheap." Two bays easily approached from the ocean afford ample port facilities, and numerous small rivers and inlets make transportation cheap and easy. I do not believe that any section of Oregon offers better advantages to the settler of small means than Tillamook county. The county is new and little has been done in the way of school house and church building, but the soil is rich and cheap, and the market is easily reached. The timber of Tillamook county will be a source of great wealth, when it shall be made use of and that cannot be long delayed. There is plenty of room for a thousand families to find and procure a comfortable home for themselves in Tillamook county. Uncle Sam's land is there in plenty, only waiting to be taken up, so young man why will you toil and sweat, and labor in the east for sixteen dollars a month, with no prospect of bettering your worldly condition so long as you stay, while if you come here, and take you a home in the forests of Oregon, in three years time you will have a comfortable home of your own, from which no

one can drive you away. I speak from experience as I am not a born Oregonian, but was born in the good old republican state of Ohio in 1856, and I left Ohio in 1875, and I landed in Oregon in 1881, and in the intervening years have lived in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Washington Territory, British America, and have finally concluded to make Oregon my future home. I was looking for a country where I could find all the conditions perfect, and without a drawback, but at last I have come to the conclusion that such a country does not exist. What would you people of the east think if I were to tell you the largest town in Tillamook will not number 100 souls; yet such is the fact. Yet here is land rich as any in America, a fine salubrious climate, scarcely any winter, and no severe heat in summer no earthquakes or cyclones, no drouths or failures in crops, yet this county is almost uninhabitable, and why is it so? First, because it is some seventy odd miles from the nearest railroad, with the coast range mountains lying between, and therefore somewhat inconvenient to get at, and second, because hundreds of people in the east, who would count this small inconvenience no obstacle at all, do not know there is such a place as Tillamook county, Oregon, and scarcely any of those who may, by chance, have heard the name, know anything of the many advantages possessed by this county. It is the aim of the author of this book to give you people of the east this necessary information. Tillamook county has several small rivers, all emptying into the ocean, and along these rivers are magnificent forests of fir and cedar. All along the big and little Nestucca river can be found fine bottom land, and some of it very easily cleared, and when once cleared, ten acres of it are worth more than fifty acres of the old worn out land of the east. I know of several farmers here in Oregon who have raised five hun-

dred bushels of potatoes to the acre, I believe I have said all that is necessary about Tillamook county. I will only add, that to the home seeker, there is no better opening in Oregon.

WASHINGTON

County is the most northernly of the "west side" counties, its eastern and northern boundary being within only a few miles of Portland. One third of its area is prairie grain land, and two thirds covered with oak, fir and cedar timber. The great feature of Washington county is the Tualatan plains, a series of level prairies, very closely connected, and affording thousands of acres of rich land, almost every foot of which is under cultivation. Washington county as a whole, is a prosperous farming country and its industries, besides agriculture are those which attend upon agriculture and are almost a part of it. The land is much too valuable for general stock raising, but no county in Oregon has so much good stock as has Washington. The annual county fairs held at Hillsboro, the county seat, attract from the county alone, a better exhibit of blooded horses, cattle, hogs, sheep and fowls than the state at large turn out for the fair of the State Agricultural society at Salem. People throughout the county are well to do and are well provided with the comforts and even luxuries of rural life. Good, houses. good barns, fine wagons and carriages and most of the material blessings of life abound. Washington county like all the Willamette valley counties has been of late years almost wholly devoted to wheat growing, but during the past three years intelligent efforts have been made towards diversifying its industry. Another year it will produce hay and fruit in larger quantities and ere long it must become to a great extent, the garden of the Portland market. The principal towns of Washington county are Hillsboro, the chief business point and county seat. Forest

Grove, a "school town," also a good business place, and Cornelius which lies between them, and is the point of railroad shipment for a considerable section of surrounding country. The population of Hillsboro is about 1200, that of Forest Grove about 200 less, and that of Cornelius not more than 200. They are thriving farming centers, and are substantially built towns, well provided with the privileges of churches, schools, and a good general society. Forest Grove is the seat of the Pacific University, one of the oldest educational institutions of the state. It is a chartered college with a preparatory department, and is celebrated throughout Oregon for excellence of discipline, thoroughness of instruction and for its high moral tone. The settler in Washington county may find good foothill land for the taking up, but if he would establish himself in the prairie districts near the railroad, he must pay fancy prices, from \$20 to \$100 per acre, and I know of some fine land, near the town of Beavertown, that is held at \$200 per acre. This land is principally used for producing onions, and it will produce 700 bushels to the acre; and they sell here readily at from seventy-five to one dollar per bushel, and this year one man raised 650 bushels of potatoes to the acre. Such is Washington county.

YAMHILL

County lies south of Washington, and between the Coast range of mountains and the Willamette river. Its name the corruption of an Indian word signifying "a ford" has been the butt of many thousands of poor folks and doubtless will always continue to amuse small willed people. Yamhill county has produced more men of mark than all the other counties of the state together, and many prominent men in Oregon are vain of having started in Yamhill. Like its neighbor, Washington county, Yamhill is distinctly a farming section, but in many respects is a

better county. The soil of Yamhill county is undeniably superior to that of Washington county, though the difference is fully equalized by the advantage of nearness to the market of Portland enjoyed by the former. The surface of Yamhill is in the main gently rolling, the hills to their very summits producing magnificent crops of wheat, which for excellence or quality is not surpassed anywhere in the wide world. Yamhill has more pasture land than Washington, and much more stock, but the latter is not of such high grade. Wheat and stock raising are the chief industries. As a people, the residents of Yamhill are unusually prosperous. In no other county of Oregon is the average of wealth so great. There are in Yamhill at least fifty farm-houses with all the modern conveniences and in fact all the luxuries of city homes. Houses costing five thousand dollars and upward are common throughout the country, and well built and filled barns attest the general thrift. Schools are maintained in every district through several months of the year, and neat chapels in which religious services are held, stand in sight of each other the county over. The principal towns of Yamhill are McMinnville, Lafayette, Dayton, Sheridan and Amity, and there are half a dozen or more good trading points. Lafayette is the county seat, and is a substantial town of about one thousand inhabitants. It is a point of shipment on the Yamhill river during a great part of the year, and is the centre of a very rich farming district. McMinnville is on the line of the O. & C. R. R., and is a bustling place. Before the days of the railroad it was comparatively a dull place, but the whistle of the locomotive waked it from a long sleep, and it is now one of the most energetic railroad points in the state. The McMinnville college, an old and very excellent establishment, is located here, and has quite a large number of students, whose presence gives the town a very pleasant social activity. Dayton is a river point, and terminus on the Yamhill river of the narrow-gauge railroad, which runs through the southern part of Yamhill county and the northern part of Polk county. It differs not from any other points in its vicinity,

being the seat of a steady local trade. Amity, and the various other points are thrifty local centers. In Yamhill, as in the counties of Willamette valley, lands are held at a high figure. Willamina, a small town of three hundred people, situated in the extreme western part of Yamhill county, and ten miles from the Grande Ronde Indian reservation, is a beautiful little town, nestling at the foothills of the Coast Range of mountains. While land here in Yamhill county is held at high prices, yet it is not as high-priced as same quality of land in Washington county, owing to nearness to Portland of the latter county. In fact, some very desirable land can be bought in Yamhill county at \$20 to \$80 per acre, all well improved, with buildings and orchards. I believe at this writing, it is the only county in the state that is out of debt. In my business of canvassing salesman, I have found the people of Yamhill county were better supplied with money than the people of any other county in the State of Oregon. Another very profitable industry that is beginning to assume shape in the Willamette valley is that of prune growing. Mr. S. A. Clarke, of Marion county, one of the largest prune growers in the state, says in a late issue of the "Oregonian": "I commenced planting out my prune orchard in 1875, and have planted out continually since, until I have over six thousand trees of the best varieties. I doubt if any orchard of the kind in Western Oregon has better soil and location. At six years old plum and prune trees begin to make returns; and I have never known that, at that age, they average over half a bushel of green fruit to the tree, and very seldom that much annual yield. Last year I sold my dried prunes as follows: Petite prunes 10 cents a pound, Italian prunes 12 1/2c., and Golden Drops the same. Let us suppose a man has twenty acres in prunes, set fifteen feet apart, or two hundred to the acre, he would have four thousand trees; and if he would average as many bushels, he would be fortunate. His own labor would do all the work of pruning, plowing and planting to fill vacancies, and he could keep up a small nursery to recruit from. If growing Petites and Italians, he should have

65,000 pounds cured prunes to sell ! All the cost of gathering, curing and packing would not amount to $2\frac{1}{2}$ cts., and perhaps not over 2 cts. a pound. If he averaged 8 cents a pound for Petites and 10 cents for Italians, he would have $6\frac{1}{2}$ cts. per pound remaining over all expenses of saving and marketing his fruit. Six and a half times 65,000 pounds clear \$4000 a year as an average profit on twenty acres of land."

POLK

County is directly south of Yamhill, and like the latter, lies between the Willamette river and the Coast range. Its area of about thirty townships is pretty equally divided between level and rolling land ; and it is beautifully watered and timbered throughout. Its eastern half occupied by the farms, is among the best developed sections in the state. Polk is a farming county, and its industries are all incidental to the business of farming. There is some stock raising, but it is carried on as part of a general business. Almost every farmer has a few head of cattle, horses and and sheep. Much attention is paid to blood ; one of the finest flocks of sheep in the state being on the hill ranges south and west of Dallas. The eastern or hilly section of Polk is covered with fine hard-wood and fir trees, which with the growing demand for lumber, must soon become valuable. This hilly land also affords fine range, and is especially adapted for sheep and stock pasturage. There is not a distinctive fruit farm in Polk county, or in fact but one small one in all the west-side counties. Each farmer has from one to five acres of orchard, which receives but little care. Apples, pears and small fruits grow well, however ; and now that railroads have made it possible to market fruit in the fresh state, more attention will be paid to fruit culture. The chief towns of Polk county are Dallas, the county seat, Independence and Monmouth. Dallas is about fifteen miles west of Willamette river at Salem, and is a sprightly inland town of about nine hundred people. Its business is that of a large farming center, the various branches of merchandise being represented by

general and graded stores. It has several very substantial brick buildings and a number of really very handsome residences. Good schools maintain a high educational and moral standard. Independence is on the west bank of the Willamette river, and is a rival of Dallas for the honors and advantages of the county seat. Its location on the O. & C.R.R. and on the river gives it special advantages as a shipping point, and attracts to it a great share of grain of the county. Independence handles at least one-third of the wheat grown in Polk county, and is the center of a great trade. It has improved more in the last five years than any other town in Western Oregon, this improvement being due to the advantage of location and to the enterprise of its business men, who leave no effort untried which promises welfare to their town. Monmouth is considerably smaller than either Independence or Dallas, and is a quiet "school town." It enjoys, however, a steady business from farmers near at hand. Christian College is located here, and attracts attendance from all parts of the state. It is conducted on excellent principles, and among its graduates are numbered several of the brightest young men in Oregon. Perrydale in the southern part of the county is another good trading point. Land is somewhat cheaper than in Yamhill; but owing to location of the county. Government land is pretty scarce, as it has very little foot-hill land, but good improved farms can be bought at \$25 per acre.

BENTON

County is the largest in the west-side chain. It extends from Willamette river on the east to Pacific ocean on the west—a distance of about sixty-five miles—and its width is about forty miles north and south. It is less densely settled than either of the other west-side counties, but it is perhaps richer in native resources than any other—certainly its resources are of greater variety. Its eastern third is level, alternate prairie and light black land, and the remainder is timbered hill land admirably adapted for pasture. The level land of Benton is almost exactly like the level lands of other Western Oregon counties.

It is well watered and timbered, rich in soil—in short, a farmer's paradise! It is thickly settled, and has been for many years; its principal products are wheat, stock, vegetables, fruit and so on. The western or coast section of Benton is a fine stock country, but it is scarcely occupied at all. The hills originally covered with dense forests, have been burned over, and are now comparatively open. The debris of the burned forest has enriched the soil to a highly productive state, and peculiarly adapted it for various "tame" grasses. The hills are seamed with creek and river bottoms which yield hay, or in fact any thing planted, in abundance. The climate is a softened ocean climate, and the extremes of heat and cold are not known. Snow is rare and never lies on the ground more than two days together. Benton has a large share of coast country, and a natural harbor at Yaquina bay. Its western part, particularly the Yaquina country, is rapidly filling up with immigrants. Within the past four years, Benton county has received a large immigration from England—and the new-comers are, for most part, of the better class of people. The principal town of Benton county is Corvallis, the southern terminal point of the west side division of the O. & C. R. R., and on bank of the Willamette river. It has a population of two thousand, and it is not only a local center, but is the distributing point for the whole of Benton county and the western part of Lane. It has two banks, fine stores, good residences, and wears an air of enterprise. A line of railroad connecting Corvallis with Yaquina bay was completed about two years ago, which will aid greatly in filling up the coast part of the county with industrious immigrants. At this writing, fully two-thirds of the coast part of the county is yet vacant and open to settlers. Of course, most of the coast part is rough and mountainous, but is a fine country for stock-raising. Newport, a small seaport town that is situated on the bay, has more than doubled its population since the railroad went through two years ago. It has now about six hundred inhabitants. Yaquina City and Toledo are still smaller towns, situated further up the bay. To the home-

seeker of the overcrowded East, I would say : Come to Benton county ; leave your family (if you have one) at a hotel in Corvallis, and take the train for Yaquina City. There you can stop over night, start next morning on foot, and almost any of the settlers in the sparsely-settled portion will help you to find a desirable vacant piece of land, and will give you all necessary information as to the number of that section, the range, township, and so forth. Roseburg is the U. S. land office for this district. Remember, friends, that in a few more years vacant land will be very scarce on the Pacific coast, and there is no more desirable place to live, in the world. No place where an honest living can be more easily made. Corn cannot be raised in the Willamette valley of sufficient quality to fatten a farmer's own hogs for his family meat. A few varieties of early corn are raised in the garden for roasting-ears, and then they are not ready for eating until the first of August, and last till first of November. The nights here are always cool, and therefore vegetables do not grow so fast as in the East, but our growing seasons are much longer here than in the East. Peaches do not do well here, although some few are raised, and the born Oregonians think they are immense, but I tell them they should taste the peaches grown in old Arkansaw! It is my aim to give in this little work all the disadvantages of the country as well as the advantages. Railroad companies and immigration agents tell you of all the advantages possessed by Western Oregon, and leave you to find out the disadvantages after you get here ; but I shall endeavor to "hew to the line, let the chips fall as they may." The Cascade Range of mountains extends throughout the entire length of the state from north to south parallel with the Coast Range, and these two ranges are from one hundred to one hundred and twenty miles apart, and between these two mountain chains lies the far famed Willamette valley, the garden spot of Oregon. This valley is one hundred and forty miles in length by ninety-five in average width, and contains about eight and a half million acres. The Calapooia mountains mark its southern boundary, in which rises the

Willamette river, that flows north through the entire length of the valley and empties into the Columbia river about twelve miles below Portland. No valley in America is better supplied with running streams of pure, clear water. In no country on the globe is water more universally and easily accessible by digging. No county is better supplied with timber for building and fencing purposes. Its climate, agricultural and other resources, I will now briefly describe.

CLIMATE.

To a person raised in such a climate as Illinois, Iowa or Missouri, the climate of the Willamette valley may seem to be peculiar. In a general sense there may be said to be but two climatic seasons here, the dry and the wet season. The wet or rainy season begins usually about the middle of November and lasts till the first or middle of April, during which period it rains a great deal. Of course, there are days and even weeks at a time during this period that are dry, sunshiny and very pleasant. Strange as it may appear to persons raised in other and different climates, this season is very healthy, and the more continuous the rain the better the health. When we have two or three weeks of clear, chilly, frosty weather, it breeds, as a rule, diphtheria, scarlet fever, coughs, colds, and the like. One of the happy conditions of the climate here, and one that makes this country a desirable one in which to make a permanent home, is the fact that cyclones and hurricanes, and even storms, are unknown. High waters that do so much damage in other parts of the country are very rare here, there having been but one occurrence of the kind since the settlement of the country, and that was in the winter of 1862—owing to an immense amount of snow which had accumulated in the Cascade, Calapooia and Coast mountains being melted off very rapidly by a very heavy warm rain which swelled the Willamette and its tributaries to overflowing, when considerable damage was done. Lightning and thunder are also very rare. The prevailing winds in winter are from the south, and are always moist

and damp. It is a rare thing to have either snow or frost when the wind is in the south. Occasionally we have wind from the north in the winter season, but such winds coming from the Arctic regions are attended with more or less frosty, and sometimes freezing weather. The prevailing winds of the dry season are from the north, and except during a heated term are very exhilarating and pleasant. Sometimes we have snow here to a depth of from one to eight inches, but it rarely remains longer than a few days. The summer or dry season here is of the most pleasant character, being not hot and sultry, but pleasant and sunshiny and of a very cheery nature. Nights as a rule are cool and no place can be found on earth, where the weary man will find more pleasure, comfort and benefit, physical and mental in the arms of "nature's sweet restorer," than in the Willamette Valley. Many persons are told of so much damp weather during the winter are apt to believe that health would not be good, but such is not the case. All the old settlers will truthfully tell you that the moist damp weather in the winter is the most healthful period of the year. The health record in Oregon makes a more favorable showing than that of any other state in the Union. We do not have the same degree of heat here that people who live in the same latitude east of the Rocky Mountains are subjected to. Thermometer here marks 90 degrees the heat is not so oppressive as the same degree in the Mississippi Valley, for, as a rule, when the thermometer reaches the above indicated degree here, by four or five o'clock in the evening of such days the weather has so moderated through the influence of sea breezes which at that hour begin to sweep over the valley, that a woolen coat is often required. The nights are refreshing and invigorating. Scarcely a night during summer but that one or more blankets are required while sleeping. The thermometer marks 20 degrees above zero ordinarily in the coldest days of winter. Once in the history of the country (winter of 1874-5,) the thermometer marked 10 degrees below zero. These are the "hard winters" to which Oregonians refer when discussing the weather. But

on neither of these occasions did the cold last more than two days. Sometimes quite heavy snows fall here, but they soon melt away under the softening influence of a chinook wind. In the east, when in summer when the thermometer gets up to 80, people seek the shade—in this state they seek the sunshine from choice. There is a tonic in it at that temperature. The mean average temperature in July is 68, that of January, 45 degrees. Another strong argument in favor of our climate is in its agricultural production. The superior quality of our wheat, famous the world over, clearly establishes and enforces the fact that we have the sunshiny days and long cool nights, less intense heat in the maturing months necessary for the perfect growth of the highest-grade of wheat. Not only this cereal, but the best climate for oats, rye, barley, hops, vegetables and fruits of all kinds and berries of every kind imaginable as belonging to the temperate regions. In a word, the climate of Oregon develops a rich vegetation, ripens abundant harvests and is favorable to the growth of a strong healthy race of people. The impression often obtains in the minds of those who read about the moist character of the climate here that the rainfall for the year must exceed that of any other state, but this is by no means the case. The average yearly rainfall in the New England States is 47.85 inches, Middle Atlantic States 46.42; South Atlantic States 59.01; Gulf States 55.00; Ohio Valley States 49.39, while in Oregon the average yearly rainfall for the last six years is about 44.00 inches. In the settled portions of the country, there are school-houses in every district. The average salary paid male teachers is \$42.27 per month of twenty days. The average salary paid female teachers is \$32.97 per month of twenty days. In the cities and towns male teachers receive from \$75 to \$125 per month while female teachers receive from \$35 to \$60 per month. In most all parts of the state there is a very friendly, healthy feeling with reference to our public schools, and the intending immigrant need have no fears on that subject. Of course, when immigrants go away out in an unsettled part of the

country and settle down, it will take a few years for the country to grow and fill up sufficient to support a school

SOUTHERN OREGON.

The section of the state known as Southern Oregon, consists of the counties of Coos and Curry, which lie along the southern coast, and the counties of Josephine and Jackson which occupy the space between the coast mountains and the Cascades, and borders on the California line to the enormous county of Lake, which lies still farther to the east and which also borders on the California boundary. The three sections differ widely from each other in soil, surface and climate. The coast section is rough and heavily timbered, with the usual moist climate. The middle section is warmer both in summer and winter than Western Oregon and much less moist, and the Southern is cool in winter and hot in summer like Eastern Oregon. The longest settled section is that of Jackson and Josephine, though they are but yet sparsely populated.

JACKSON

County is the seat of old population and, indeed, of the most important interests in Southern Oregon. Its area is over 2000 square miles, but the greater part of the surface is mountainous. Its principal productive section is the Rogue river valley which is about fifty miles long with an average width of fifteen miles. Agriculture is well in progress in this valley and in various other smaller valleys in the county, but as there has never been any means of transportation, it has been limited to supplying the local demand. But this is greater than in any other part of the country, owing to extensive local mining operations. About eight hundred men are engaged in working the rich placer fields in the Rogue river valley and in two score or more gulches, and these form an excellent local market. The towns, Jacksonville and Ashland, too, draw their whole produce supply from the valley, and Jackson County is under a warmer sun than Western Oregon and its products more nearly re-

semble those of California than of this state. Corn, which in no other part of Oregon yields a full crop, grows here to almost the fullest development, but not quite equal to that raised in the east, while sweet potatoes and other semi-tropical products grow in perfect thrift. But it is its fruit which most distinguishes the county; and peaches, grapes and the whole list of general and small fruits yield in the highest excellence of size and flavor. Hitherto, little attention has been paid to fruit production because there has been no way of getting it to market, but the Oregon & California railroad which passed through here two years ago, opens up the Portland, and in fact, the eastern market, and we learn that the fruit business will now be pursued on a much larger scale. Mining has been the chief industry of the country for many years. Its annual output of gold is about \$120,000 per year; but while this output is growing larger each season, other industries are reaching to the fore, and mining will soon fall several ranks, and general farming, including fruit growing, which as stated above, is still more important interests than mining, and stock raising will soon be equal to either. The rough foot hill land of Jackson afford fine range and the stock interest is constantly growing. With commendable enterprise the people have imported good blood in both horses and cattle, and some of the finest stock in the state is to be found here. The population of Jackson County is not the usual population of a mining country. Mining is here followed as a legitimate business, fairly certain and only moderate in its rewards. There is no "rich to-day, poor to-morrow" class and nothing of the reckless spirit so common in mining countries. The people are a reliant class, accustomed to helping themselves and they are well-to-do almost to a man. Owing to the situation of the country as well as to the sparse population in proportion to the area of the country, lands are not as high in proportion in Jackson County as the Willamette Valley. Good improved farms can be bought at from \$15 to \$50 an acre, the last named figure being for the very best places, especially well improved. Jack-

sonville, a prosperous town of 1400 inhabitants is the chief business point in the county. Ashland with over 1000 population is not far behind. The notable features of the latter town being a collegiate school and a woolen mill. The population of the county is now about 13,000.

JOSEPHINE

Is a mountainous county west of Jackson with a population of 3000. Its chief industries are mining and stock raising. Like Jackson, it contains fine timber lands. It has some good agricultural fields which will be developed now that the railroad has penetrated it, and there is no reason why it should not divide honors and profits with Jackson as a fruit garden. There is plenty of vacant land in this county. As the soil, climate and productions of Josephine County are identical with Jackson, it is not necessary to dwell at greater length on a review of this county, so we now pass on to

COOS

County, which is a small county, as counties go in Oregon. Its industries, which are very large in proportion to its population, cluster about the coast part of Coos bay and the Coquille river. Coos bay is one of the richest sections of the state; the region all about it are underlaid with coal, and no less than five large mines are constantly worked; their output being shipped in steamers and sailing vessels to San Francisco. The writer of this work has traveled all over this county, and I consider it one of the very best counties of Oregon for immigrants to come to, so I will give a full and exhaustive sketch of this county as it is to-day. The Coquille valley is situated in the southern part of Coos county and is penetrated by the Coquille river which drains the major part of said county and also a portion of Douglas and Curry counties. The frontage on the Pacific ocean is quite extensive. The land for the most part is mountain and bench, but there are many creek bottoms on which are situated some of our largest farms, and the Coquille

river and its four forks have large bottoms. The upland is principally timbered and is free from rocks, except in a few localities. The scope of country drained by the Coquille and its tributaries is about 90 miles in length, and extends from Camas valley, Brewster valley and Johnson's mountain to the sea, and from 20 to 50 miles in width and extends from Coos river mountains to Rogue river mountains. The streams emptying into Coos bay drain the northwestern part of Coos county, and the land is of the same general description as the Coquille valley, only being more limited in extent.

CLIMATE.

During the winter and spring months the prevailing winds are from the south, bringing with them warm rains, insuring a bountiful harvest in the summer and fall; while in the summer the cool sea breezes from the northwest mitigate the heat which in most places of the same latitude is extremely oppressive during that season. To show how even our temperature is, we give the following table, which is the report from the signal service office at Bandon for 1884:

	Monthly mean temperature.	Rainfall in inches.....	Days of Frost..	Days of rain....	Days of hail ...	Days of snow..
January.....	43.08	4.60	14	7	0	0
February.....	40.11	9.72	13	11	4	3
March.....	45.07	5.29	3	13	2	0
April.....	40.04	3.96	1	13	0	0
May.....	52.69	.43	0	4	0	0
June.....	55.47	1.25	0	6	0	0
July.....	58.12	1.04	0	4	0	0
August.....	58.00	.04	0	1	0	0
September.....	54.37	5.12	0	12	0	0
October.....	50.97	3.12	0	9	0	0
November.....	50.12	3.93	3	7	0	0
December.....	43.58	13.65	10	16	1	1
	50.05	52.12	44	103	7	4

is in the eating of it." So the proof of the richness of the soil is in its productions.

STOCK RAISING AND DAIRYING.

There is not a place anywhere, that stock can be raised with better profits than here. One can not find a place in our mountains so barren, that a limited amount of stock can not be kept on wild range alone. And the matter of increasing range is so easy that it can be made limitless for a mere nominal sum. There are good ranges lying idle in our mountains that have come from grass getting started on burnt woods, that would accommodate hundreds of cattle, and the chance for making others similar to these can be enumerated by the area of the country. Grass being such a natural product—four to five tons of hay growing on an acre—the dairying interests must be manifest. Down the coast in southern Coos and northern Curry, dairying is the principal industry, scores of tons of butter being shipped to San Francisco annually. As a wool producing section, few places are better adapted. Swine do well, often getting fat enough for pork on myrtle mast. Feeding even for beef and mutton is never resorted to except on over-stocked range, and as fat meat as can be seen anywhere can be seen at the markets in every month in the year. In fact, the fattest meat seen here the past year were just off the mountain ranges in December and January. There is no lack of good healthy running water for stock, nearly every forty-acre tract of land having a good stream of living water. Stock are subject to none of the diseases that prevail in other sections, and our market is good, buyers always perambulating the country. The prices of cows are \$20, \$30 and \$40, and other cattle in proportion. Horses range from \$60 to \$150.

LANDS.

Public lands are to be had in many townships by homestead, pre-emption or private entry. The lands suitable for farming are mostly owned, but there are valuable places for stock-

raising to be had, and also valuable timber claims. In fact, stock-raising is so much more profitable than farming, that places can be had for the taking that are worth more than farms which are held at several hundred dollars. Good bottom land on the river can be bought at from \$10 to \$50 per acre, but bottom land in cultivation is considered cheap at from \$30 to \$70 per acre. As a matter of fact, the lands situated on the navigable waters of the Coquille river, and streams emptying into Coos bay are best adapted to farming, since the hauling reduces the profit; but stock can be raised to better advantage further back where they can have access to mountain and hill ranges. This resolves itself to this: If you want to farm get land on the river and as near market or navigation as possible, and to do this, you will have to buy of first purchasers to get much of a place. If you choose stock raising, take up a place or buy out in the hills or creek bottoms, where you will not be too much crowded. There is no land to be found that will not produce fine grass if cleared. There are thousands of acres of "burnt woods" on which stock can be kept in good condition the year round. A few places of this kind have been taken, but there are scores of miles without a settler. Very recently the Coos Bay Wagon road company put their lands upon the market and the prices are \$3 to \$10 per acre. These lands are of every class, from the best to the poorest. There are fortunes to be made by securing the timber lands now vacant.

TIMBER INTERESTS.

The timber interests of Coos county, and particularly that of the south half of the county are so immense that to exaggerate them would be foolish in anybody, for the bare truth would appear unreasonable to persons from the Eastern States, and the exaggeration would fail of its purpose—that of conviction. This might also be said of the coal interest. The San Francisco Examiner of a late issue, says: "It has often been said, and rightfully so, too, that Southwestern Oregon be-

longs virtually to California. Everything produced there comes to San Francisco, whereas this part is unknown to the balance of the state, except in a judicial sense. This is particularly so of the counties of Coos and Curry, which cover an immense amount of territory which is running over with wealth. They are the richest counties in the state in natural wealth, being a vast coal bed from one extreme to the other. There is to be found nearly every variety of coal known, and in quantities incalculable; every river, creek and rivulet, exposing croppings of, in many places coal of the finest quality which is used and pronounced by local blacksmiths the best. Over this immense coal field is to be found a never-ending forest of the best timber known. The immensity of the forests,—or rather forest, for it is without a break for hundreds of miles, extending for the most part from California to the Columbia river—can not be estimated nor described with anything like accuracy. There are the following varieties of timber: Fir—red, white and yellow; Cedar—red, white and yellow; Maple, Ash, Alder, Myrtle, Madrone, Hemlock and Spruce. The trees grow as large as eight and ten feet in diameter of the fir, cedar, myrtle and spruce varieties, and it is not uncommon to find a tree that will measure 15,000 feet of the two first varieties. The other kinds often produce—any of them—5,000 feet. The ground is as thickly studded with these fine trees as it is possible for them to grow, some of them when in San Francisco being worth from \$700 to \$1,000. When one takes into consideration that there are hundreds of these trees on an acre, he can begin to realize something of the wealth of these two counties; but the timber wealth is much less than that of the minerals and coal. The center of, and the richest of this great natural wealth, is situated in the northern Curry and southern Coos counties, and is penetrated by the Coquille river, a beautiful stream on which the tide sets four feet high at a distance of forty miles from its mouth. Ocean vessels of twenty feet draft, only for a shoal bar could ascend this river thirty five miles at any time, and river steamers for many miles further. This

river for forty miles is intersected by creeks and sloughs running for many miles back into the country, affording an outlet for millions and millions of feet of fine lumber, and could, with a little work be made suitable for bringing out coal. At forty miles from the mouth of the Coquille, the river forks, making the Middle, North and South forks,—large streams running far back, draining large portions of Curry, Coos and Douglas counties, but being for the most part in Coos. The bottom lands on the river, creeks, sloughs and forks are of the greatest fertility, being equal to any in point of productiveness. They are also very extensive. It is on these that we find the valuable hard wood timber. Thus we see the immense wealth that is lying dormant; that when developed will bring California more than the state in which it is situated. To get at the great wealth, it is necessary that the entrance to the Coquille river be improved, which is being slowly done by Congressional appropriations.”

MINING AND MINERALS.

The southern portion of Coos and the eastern part of Curry county embraces a large part of the great mineral belt, from which Southwestern Oregon and Northwestern California have been drawing immense wealth ever since the first settlement of Coos and Curry counties. Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been taken from the tributaries of the Coquille, Sixes, Elk, Rusty and Lobster, since the first settlement of Coos and Curry, in the form of gold dust, a great part of which is coarse. Some nuggets weighing from thirty to one hundred and sixty-five dollars, and still the resources in that particular are comparatively undeveloped. As yet no large operations have been undertaken, and the treasure that has been obtained from the placers has been literally scratched from the surface. The ledges from which these deposits have washed remain untouched with one or two exceptions. The “Dunbar Boulder,” a small fragment weighing only a few hundred pounds, produced \$3400; and quartz of different varieties taken from the same

range assay from \$15 to over \$300 per ton in gold and silver. Here are mountains of the veritable "Blue Bonanza" rock, from which the celebrated black-sand gold is washed from its decomposing surface and carried to the ocean, where it is "panned out" by the action of the waves and left in rich stratumlike deposits, which have been, and are now being successfully mined along and near the beach. Iron ore is found in abundance, some of which possesses peculiar magnetic properties. Copper is common; antimony is plentiful; and strangely enough gold predominating! In some localities the path of the prospector is actually paved with chrome, which is not only valuable as a merchantable article, but for the precious metals it contains. In the same range near the coast, in Del Norte county, Cal., the same article has for years been shipped to the East as an article of commerce, its yield of gold alone paying the expense of transportation. In the region drained by the middle fork of the Coquille is found large quantities of galena ore, which has not yet been disturbed. But by far the most useful and extensive of this branch of the resources of the Coquille and its tributaries are the immense deposits of coal. The entire region from Rogue river on the south to nearly as far north as the Umpqua, covering a tract of land about one hundred miles in length and from twenty-five to fifty miles in width is one vast bed of coal, with the Coquille and Coos bay bars as the only available outlet for shipping. It is of splendid quality and practically inexhaustible.

FISH AND FISHING.

For several years past the fishing industry has afforded remunerative employment for a large number of people. The Coquille Packing Company, whose cannery is situated eight miles from the mouth of the river, has been established two years, and last season gave employment to 112 men. Other fisheries employing as many more hands, find sale for their fish at the cannery at good prices, or put them up in barrels for the San Francisco market.

Many of the settlers along the river, who are engaged in other pursuits, keep nets and seines, and during the fishing season reap a bountiful harvest from the water as well as from the land. Fish, instead of being a luxury hard to obtain in many parts, here has become a staple article of food, as well as the source of untold commercial wealth. The C. P. Co., during a short run of only a few days, after getting ready, put up about 7000 cases of salmon; and the nightly catch in some of the fisheries along the river sometimes runs as high as 3200 from six or seven boats, which at the average price of 40 cents per fish would make their night's work bring them the neat sum of \$800! Single boats have sometimes brought in as high as 600 fish in one night, which would net over \$190 to the man per night, allowing for wear and tear, breakage of nets, etc.

The river at certain seasons is fairly alive with fish fresh from the sea; the water being salty for at least forty miles from its mouth, the fish retain all their rich freshness, equal to the best Columbia river brands. Countless varieties of fish visit our waters every season, each in its own particular turn. Myriads of small fish such as herring, smelt, sardines, perch, flounders, etc., swarm in from the sea; and native fresh-water fish, such as the different varieties of trout, are abundant and of fine flavor. Along the reefs and banks of the coast are found in great abundance hake, halbut, Pacific cod, and numerous species of other valuable salt-water fish.

Seal and sea-lion hunting has formed an important business for several years among the coast people, and valuable cargoes of oil and furs have been shipped to market. Occasionally fur seal and sea-otter are captured, the fur of the latter bringing \$40 to \$150 each. Crabs and different varieties of shell-fish are numerous, and many people from the interior visit the beach every season to feast upon the delicious bivalves and other healthful delicacies, with which bountiful nature has liberally supplied this section.

GAME AND FURS.

Owing to the density of our forests, and the fact that the

country is but sparsely settled, wild game roam the country at will. The following kinds are to be found in abundance : elk, deer, bear, panther, cougar, wildcat, lynx, marten, beaver, fisher, coon, mink, otter, Oregon conies, weasel, squirrel, rabbit, and the following fowls: Geese, ducks of every known species, grouse, pheasants, quail, plover and snipe. While the bear, marten, beaver, fisher, mink and otter furnish valuable pelts, wild game and fish furnish ample food of the kind for miners and prospectors in the fastnesses of the mountains ; and the farmer and rancher need never make incursion on their flocks or herds for meat, if they choose to have wild meat instead.

ROADS AND TRAVEL.

In the matter of roads this county is behind the times, which is owing to the fact that navigation has been good and roads hard to build through the heavy timber. However, there are passable wagon-roads for the most part down the Coquille river, forks and creeks. There are also three roads leading to the main Roseburg and Coos bay wagon-road from the Coquille valley ; one to Coos bay, and one down the coast from Bandon to Curry county. Stages run twice a day between Coquille City and Coos bay ; besides, there is another route accomplished by a ride across the isthmus on the Isthmus Transit railroad, and thence down Beaver slough to the river. A daily hack connects from Coquille City with the Coos bay and Roseburg road at Fairview. There are two steamers running on the river—one up and the other down, every day, and their route extends from Bandon at the mouth of the Coquille river to within a mile of Myrtle Point, a distance of upwards of forty miles, and the fare is fifty cents. On Coos bay there are several small steamers running to the various points every day of the week except Sunday. Freight and transportation is very cheap both on the bay and Coquille river. On the bay a good road connects all the towns, and a through line reaches the Coquille.

COQUILLE RIVER AS A SHIPPING PORT.

The government of the United States recognizing the im-

mense natural wealth of the Coquille valley, has been spending appropriations yearly improving the river bar by building a breakwater on the south side, which has had the effect to change the bar from a nest of rocks and an uncertain depth, varying from four to eight feet, to a good straight sandy bar with from twelve to twenty feet of water. Formerly the channel was miserable and crooked, and it was difficult for our bar tug (of which we have a good one) to bring a sail vessel in; whereas now, vessels sail in unaided and are never bar-bound, as they for months at a time, formerly were. This improvement in our shipping facilities is going to revolutionize business, and lucky will be the man who is prepared to share in the benefits to accrue. Whereas we were virtually "bottled up" four years ago, as far as our river as a shipping port was concerned, to-day we have one of the best ports of entry on the Oregon coast. The entrance to the channel at the bar is half a mile north of its location five years ago, and nearly where it was many years ago when there were eighteen feet of water on the bar. Large sail vessels or steamers can now sail from San Francisco, and without a halt, penetrate this veritable bonanza of wealth forty miles up the Coquille river.

COOS BAY—ITS SHIPPING.

The principal ship-building of Oregon is at Coos bay, and the importance of shipping at this place is only exceeded in this state by that of the Columbia river. A great fleet of vessels (both steam and sail) run regularly between the bay and San Francisco. So as to accommodate a large class of vessels, the government is building a sea wall above the entrance to the bay so as to confine the waters to a narrow channel that a greater depth may be obtained. When this is completed, it is confidently believed that Coos bay will be second to no harbor on the coast for the class of vessels used in coast trade. The bay is fed by South, North, Haynes, Kentuck, Wilanch, Pony, Catching and Isthmus sloughs, Coos river, Daniels creek and many other minor streams. Each of these streams has its log-

ging camps, farms or ranches. The loggers find sale for their logs at from \$5 to \$9 per thousand; and the farmers, ranchers and gardeners find ready sale at a big figure all they can dispose of—in fact most farm and garden products are imported from San Francisco. These branches of industry not having kept pace with those which have created our home demands.

MANUFACTURING.

No portion of the Pacific coast has better facilities for manufacturing than Coos county. The coast range of mountains rise abruptly from the ocean, and owing to the generous rainfall, innumerable streams come dashing down the gorges and ravines on their way to the sea, making most magnificent water powers. As yet, little advantage has been taken of the natural provisions, the most of the mills that have been constructed so far, using steam power, logs being brought from a great distance in rafts or on trucks and skid-roads. The manufacture of lumber is the only business under this head that has assumed any importance with one or two exceptions. There are seven flouring mills in good condition and nearly all in active operation. A sash and door factory is now in process of construction on the lower river near Parkersburg, and a large saw mill is being built about four miles above the mouth of the river. There are at present five saw mills on the Coquille river, most of which are approachable by sea-going vessels of draft sufficiently light to cross the bar, which have a capacity of from 5,000 to 30,000 feet per day. When in active operation, the mills and their indispensable auxiliaries—the logging camps—give employment to several hundred men. The large quantity of wool that has been shipped yearly from this and adjoining districts, has induced some of our business men to take steps towards building a woolen mill, and it is more than probable that a large business of that kind will soon begin active operation. The tannery at Centerville, Coos bay, turns out a remarkably good quality of leather, and it is only a question of time when a local boot and shoe factory will be permanently located here. Already our

harness shops and saddleries are supplanting imported goods of that class, with articles not inferior to that manufactured elsewhere. Three breweries are in active operation, being partially supplied with malt and hops of home production, and in the matter of starch, the potato contains a large per cent. of that article, the soil being especially adapted for such production. There is also a stave mill and a ship yard at Marshfield, giving employment to many workmen. The shipping of coal from Coos bay is now a permanent business and will certainly increase greatly in the near future.

SCHOOLS AND SOCIETY.

In framing the laws of Oregon, our legislators seem to have never lost sight of school interests, and every available means is given in support of public schools. Proceeds from school lands, taxes, fines in criminal prosecutions and various other sources combine to make our school system second to none in the United States, with the exceptions of those of Iowa and California. In Coos county, school houses are to be found in all sections. The smallest district in the Coquille valley drew upwards of \$68, being upwards of \$4.25 per scholar in the last April apportionment. Unlike most newly settled countries, this is well advanced in an educational point of view, and in this respect exceeds that of many old settled states. Society is good and every leading church is fairly represented. Lodges of the various orders exist at the larger towns in the county. The people are hospitable and obliging.

NOTES OF INTEREST.

Singular enough, no ticks, lice, or other annoying insects, except fleas, are to be found here. We have no poison snakes, scorpions, or things of that sort. Crops are safe from the ravages of insects, there being no grasshoppers, chinch bugs, army worms, or anything to injure crops of any kind. Nights being comparatively cool, a person can sleep under two blankets through the summer. No devastating storms, cyclones,

waterspouts, or other disturbances of the elements in the Coquille Valley. The best and most highly priced land here is overflowed every three or four years, leaving a deposit of several inches of fine soil. So-called swamp lands are seemingly raising, or the water receding, by which many thousands of acres of the finest beaver dam lands known, and which a few years ago were considered worthless, are being added to the immense area of our arable lands. Wild bees are plentiful, and scores of trees can be found in a day in certain sections. The principal part of the timber here being evergreens, the grass and vegetation growing through the whole year, one is impressed with the idea of perpetual summer. It never rains here in torrents, but mild, gentle showers instead. Two and three crops of hay is grown here in one season, the first being cut in May. Potatoes also grow two crops, and I have heard farmers say they could have new potatoes the year round, that is they could dig potatoes out of the ground every month in the year. Many kinds of flowers have been blooming all winter, and cattle live the year round on green grass.

COQUILLE VALLEY TOWNS.

BANDON.

Situated at the mouth of the Coquille River; has a population of about 100; two stores, a postoffice, a drug store, three hotels; and is the shipping point for Rosa's saw-mill. This place is becoming one of the most desirable sea side resorts on the coast, the beach being second to none in point of interest. The fishing and hunting are excellent, there being a very great variety of fish, and also sea-lion, seals, porpoise and elk, deer, bear, panther, etc. Desirable government land lying south-east and fine stock ranches are to be had, ten miles back in that direction.

RANDOLPH,

Six miles up the river from Bandon, has a postoffice, general store, hotel, brewery and a saw-mill. Back from the town are

the famous black sand mines. Land can be bought in this vicinity for \$8 to \$15 per acre, partially cleared.

PARKERSBURG,

Three miles above Randolph, has the largest saw-mill on the river, a general store, postoffice, and a cannery. A fine lumbering, grazing and farming section lies back of this place. Land can be bought at from \$8 to \$30 per acre, and some fair locations are yet to be taken up.

COQUILLE CITY,

Twenty-one miles above Parkersburg, has a population of 350, and is the largest town on the river. It has a postoffice, two hotels, five stores, two livery stables, two drug stores, two boot and shoe shops, a weekly newspaper, *Coquille City Herald*, a saw and grist mill, a brewery and a cabinet shop. Mails arrive in this town three times a day from different directions, two by stage and the other by steamer, the two former going to Coos Bay and Roseburg, and the latter up and down the river. Farms fairly improved from \$12 to \$30 per acre. Lands in close proximity to the town \$50 to \$100 an acre. Coquille City is at the head of navigation for sea-going vessels and is the central place on the river, being easy of access, and from where parties can find transportation to any part of the valley, Coos Bay or Curry County.

NORWAY,

Eight miles above Coquille City, is in the midst of a fine farming country, and has a store, postoffice, grist and saw-mill. The land about the same as at Coquille City.

MYRTLE POINT,

At the head of local steamer navigation, has a population of about 200, three stores, one drug store, two hotels, one livery stable, grist mill, a daily mail to Roseburg, and steamers every day up and down the river. Land can be bought from \$7 to \$25 per acre, and some government lands can be found on the

river, forks, and creeks above. Myrtle Point is ten miles above Coquille City, and has an extremely pretty location.

COOS BAY TOWNS.

EMPIRE CITY.

The county seat of Coos county is situated near the entrance to the bay, and is the town lowest down on that body of water of any town. It has a population of about 450. The custom house for the district of southern Oregon is situated here. The town has a beautiful site, and is well supplied with good healthy water. It is the terminus of the Oregon Southern Improvement Co's. proposed railroad, which is to tap the O. & C. road at Roseburg. This company two years ago built a saw mill of 150,000 feet daily capacity, at this place, and have purchased several hundred thousand dollars worth of property in the county, along the route of the aforesaid proposed railroad. Being at the port of entry for so rich a district, Empire city will always be a good town. It is well supplied with stores, saloons, hotels, etc., and has a good school and several secret orders.

NORTH BEND

Is the next town up the bay. It is a beautiful little village and has, in active operation, a ship-yard and a saw mill. It is the home of an industrious people, who have a good school, and good society. The West Shore, the largest vessel ever built on the Pacific coast, was built at this place.

MARSHFIELD

Is the next place up the bay, and has a population of 900, and is the largest town in the county. It has a ship-yard, saw mill and stave mill, and other manufacturing enterprises in successful operation. It is in close proximity to the Eastport coal bunkers, and also the Aaronville saw mills, and secures the benefits of a large commerce to each of these. The town

has an excellent school and all the leading secret societies of the country, and is also well supplied with stores and saloons: Eastport and Newport are situated at the coal mines and consists of homes of miners. Up on Isthmus slough we find Southport, Coos city, Utter city, and Henryville, coal mine towns. I have given a very comprehensive review of Coos county and will close by saying to those who may read these lines, and decide to come to Coos county, to choose your own route to San Francisco, once there, go to Mr. J. Hawley, at the north corner Folsom and Spear streets, and buy your ticket for Empire city, on the Ocean Route, which will be about \$12 cabin, and \$6 steerage passage. Or if you have a dread of the sea voyage, when you are at San Francisco, you can come on the Oregon and California railroad, as far as Roseburg, then take stage 70 miles, to Coquille city.

CURRY

County is the extreme southwestern county of the State, and is the most isolated county in the State; it lies directly south of Coos. The population of the whole county will not exceed 1,500. Stock raising is the chief industry; the chief wealth of the county is its timber, particularly its large cedar forests in the vicinity of Port Orford. The county has not a good harbor, and as it is hemmed in on one side by the ocean, and on the other three sides by mountains, it will likely be slow of development. Though if one can content themselves in such an isolated place, they are sure to make a good living, as there are thousands of acres lying vacant, only waiting for the sturdy settler. There is one kind of timber in Curry county, and also plenty of it in Coos county, that is, some day bound to be very valuable for furniture manufacturing, and that is the Myrtle tree. The beauty of this wood is beyond comparison. It is nearly as dark as black walnut, mottled with mahogany colored streaks, is hard and susceptible of a perfect polish, and retains its toughness when sawed into the thinnest veneering. There is no ornamental timber on the globe, except rosewood,

equal to it. Even the curly and birds-eye maple, so much admired, is dingy and cheap looking beside it, and the famous red wood is as inferior, as ordinary cedar is to mahogany. If this beautiful timber were once introduced in the East or in Europe, it certainly would soon be in great demand. It grows in immense forests, both in Coos and Curry counties. The principal town of Curry is Ellensburg, little more than a mere village. But this can not always last. Here is good health, good climate, and good soil, and the advantages of civilization will be here at no distant day.

LAKE

County is state-like in extent. Its southern border is the California line; its western border is Jackson, Douglas and Lane counties; its northern side borders upon Wasco, and its eastern side upon Grant. It is about 150 miles square, and is very sparsely populated. Its chief, and indeed about its only interest, is stock raising. Its ranges are wide and fertile, and its isolation makes the land useless for purposes of general agriculture. So little attention is given to farming, that a great share of the flour consumed in Lake is imported from the adjoining county of Jackson. There are no less than six large lakes in the county, with smaller ones in countless numbers. These will afford, when they are needed, the irrigation which the level lands will require before they can be successfully cultivated. Lake County is so isolated that its developments will be long delayed. But a day will come when the iron horse finds its way across this country now so little known, and when it does, immigration will follow. At present I would not advise any of my readers to settle in Lake county with the view of farming; but to a man with a thousand dollars or more in cash, that wishes to engage in the stock raising business exclusively, I think he will find in Lake county all he desires to make that business a success. That is a county I have never traveled over, and consequently I am not prepared to speak authoritatively of, any further than what I have already said.

EASTERN OREGON

Is that part of the state—two-thirds of its area—which lies east of the Cascade mountains, Lake county excepted. The whole area is covered by six counties. Its climate is dry, warm in summer and cold in winter; the spring being fully a month earlier than that of Western Oregon. In fact, the climate is entirely different from that of the Willamette valley. We will begin our sketch of Eastern Oregon by a review of

WASCO

County, which is the county longest settled. Its area is great and in it may be found nearly every variety of land. Within the past five years the people of Northern Wasco have been trying the somewhat bold experiment of a complete change of business. From the earliest settlement of the country until recently, that region has been devoted almost exclusively to stock raising. As the population increased the ranges were occupied and it became necessary to sell off the cattle. Very naturally, the attention of the people was directed to agriculture, which formerly had been carried on only to the extent of supplying local consumptive demands. There was serious questions as to the capacity of the country for general farming; not with reference to richness of the soil, for that was unquestioned; but it was feared that the long seasons of dry weather would be fatal to general crops. The experiment however, has been tried, and the result is highly satisfactory. Crops last year were fair, and this year more than fair. Wheat, which was quite generally grown, is a splendid crop. The yield is reported to average from twenty-two to twenty-six bushels to the acre. Many fields, particularly well cultivated, yielded thirty bushels or more to the acre, and others where farming methods were poor did not produce more than fifteen bushels to the acre, but the average was fully up to expectations. It is demonstrated beyond a question of doubt, that the country will raise grain, and that it will raise other farm products goes with this without saying. Now that the people of northern Wasco are

beginning farming as a general, rather than an incidental business, we hope to see them go at it in the right way. Before they bend all their efforts to wheat growing, we should be glad to see them compare the profits to be expected from it with those which might reward a more varied farming. We believe that careful examination will show them that there is more and far surer profit in vegetables and fruit, than in grain. The spring season of northern Wasco county is more than a month earlier than that of the Willamette valley, and its "truck" could always have the first and highest sales in the market of Portland. The country is splendidly adapted for this kind of farming, and with it the droughts which must be expected occasionally, will interfere less than with wheat as an exclusive crop. Besides, vegetables and fruit crops do not drain and impoverish the soil as does grain growing. Northern Wasco is the most favored region of this much favored state for fruit production. It lacks some of the minor advantages of Southern Oregon, but this is more than compensated by its situation next door to the Portland market. Apples, cherries, peas, peaches and small fruits mature very early there, and their form and flavor is unsurpassed. Wasco county ought to command the Portland market for early products, and we believe the day is not far distant when it will do so. The principal town of Wasco county is The Dalles, a city of over five thousand population. It has an immense trade with the surrounding country for fifty to seventy miles in every direction.

CROOK

County was cut off from the southern part of Wasco in 1883. It has now about 9000 population, devoted almost wholly to the stock business. It has wide areas, which will in the course of time, become valuable for farming, but not till the country is opened up by railroad, of which there is no immediate prospect. The wealth of the county for years to come will be in its vast herds of horses, cattle and sheep.

UMATILLA

County, the heart of the great upper county, is 80 miles wide and 140 miles long; nearly as large as the state of Massachusetts. It contains the following towns: Pendleton, the county seat; Heppner, Weston, Centerville, Milton, Echo, Adams, Pilot Rock, Foster and Castle Rock. For stock raising, dairying or farming it is not excelled. Wheat and barley are the principal grain crops, although oats, buckwheat, flax, etc., do well. Average yield per acre twenty to forty bushels, according to the amount of rainfall. Water soft. The climate is much milder than that of the same latitude east of the Rocky mountains. Snow very rarely lays on the ground outside of the mountains over four days. The soil is exceedingly fertile and easy to cultivate. All kinds of fruits not strictly tropical grow plentifully. Garden vegetables unsurpassed. Health remarkably good. The Blue Mountains afford plenty of pine, fir and tamarack timber, but this is only true of certain localities; in some places in this country, fuel is quite an object, some of the settlers having to haul their firewood from ten to forty miles. Wages are from \$1 to \$5 a day. Hands on farms get from \$26 to \$35 a month and board, and hands on the stock ranches get from \$35 to \$60 per month. Business opportunities good for all branches of trade. Professional opportunities are rather scarce. There is some good government land still open to settlement. Muscle and capital are needed to make developments. Of minerals there are gold, silver and coal in the county. Game is abundant, such as elk, deer, antelope, ibe, bear, cougar, panther, wolves, geese, ducks, grouse, etc. Fish are principally salmon and mountain trout. The people are hospitable and are mostly from the far eastern states. A great many ambitious young men are doing well here, but I think they might all do better still, were they to make a short trip back east, and bring out a nice little wife each. They came and settled here without money or friends a few years ago and now they have both. The principal product, wheat, is worth generally from sixty-five to eighty cents a bushel. Horses from

\$30 to \$200 each. Cows from \$40 to \$60. Sheep from \$2 to \$3.50 per head. The best time to settle in the county is in the early spring or summer. Such a thing as a total failure of a grain crop is unheard of. The principal town of Umatilla county is Pendleton, situated 44 miles from the Columbia river on the Umatilla, a rapid mountain stream. On the north and east it is bounded by Umatilla reservation, the finest body of land in the state, which is only occupied by about 400 worthless Indians. This tract of land contains 800,000 acres. On the south and west lies the great wheat and stock raising county of Umatilla. Pendleton has a flattering future. Its progress is second to no town in Oregon, having increased from 700 population in 1880, to 3,500 in 1886. Its business has increased in proportion. Pendleton contains nine general merchandise establishments, two furniture stores, three drug stores, four hardware stores, five blacksmith shops, and four millinery shops, four agricultural implement warehouses, ten doctors, sixteen lawyers, six contractors, twenty-four saloons, three churches and two schools. There are a number of other business houses of different sorts. Those who deserve special mention for enterprise, and of which the citizens feel justly proud, are the magnificent 500 barrel flouring mills of W. S. Byers & Co., turned by water taken out of the Umatilla river, the steam planing mills of Watson & Co. and the First National Bank of Pendleton. A water company has been incorporated with a capital of \$50,000. A tract of land containing 640 acres has been laid out in town lots by the government, and will be sold and made an addition to the town. If the reservation is thrown open, the population of the town will soon reach 5,000. Brick are worth \$10 per thousand, building rock free in abundance within one-half mile of town. Lumber is worth \$20 per thousand feet, rough, and \$40 planed. There are two papers published in Pendleton, and five in the county. The leading journal is the semi-weekly *East Oregonian*, which makes information about the county a specialty. Real estate agents are doing a good business. Land is in great demand and town

lots are very high. Pendleton is said to be the most prosperous town in Oregon, east of the Cascade mountains. Her business men are enterprising and successful. Its surroundings compel it to be the leading town and the trading point of Umatilla county. Its future is assured. Umatilla, Heppner and Centerville are also important towns. About the most disagreeable thing one meets with in Umatilla county is the hard winds, which, a great many days in the summer season, blow terribly. Of course it is nothing like a severe storm or cyclone, but just a hard, steady breeze, sufficient to make a horse swerve from his course, when you are riding; but this is no serious drawback, as the people out there don't seem to mind it.

BAKER COUNTY.

The resources of Baker County are agriculture, stock raising and mining, both quartz and placer. The climate, except in the southern portion, is cold in winter and warm in summer. Since the land has been broken and cultivated, summer showers are getting more frequent, thus insuring a good crop without irrigation. The cereals grow to perfection in Powder River Valley, also all kinds of vegetables in abundance. There is, perhaps, no county in Oregon in which potatoes, onions, cabbage, parsnips, turnips, carrots, beets, strawberries, goose-berries, and currants grow in such profusion, or of better quality, than in this county. In the Snake and Burnt River Valleys all kinds of fruits and corn grow to perfection. Powder River Valley is 26 miles long, by an average of 16 miles wide. As yet but a small portion is settled, or in cultivation. The sage brush land when cleared, is the best soil. Baker City, a thriving town of 3,000 inhabitants, is the county seat. Heretofore everything brought into or taken out of the county was freighted in "prairie schooners," but a railroad now runs to the city. During the past year the population has increased over 40 per cent., and the influence of this increase is manifest in the rapid and substantial growth of the city. Carpenters, brick and

stone masons, and in fact mechanics of all kinds have been kept busy, while real estate has advanced more than 100 per cent. Several large brick buildings have been erected during the summer just past, and quite a number are under contract for next season. There is no county in Oregon, where an industrious man with small capital can do better than in Baker County. There is a great deal of vacant land to be had, and unimproved agricultural land can be bought for from \$6 to \$10 an acre. To a new comer, the climate in winter may seem severe, but those who are acclimated do not seem to notice the cold. The general health of the county is good, and what speaks volumes for the county, the farmers, generally, are out of debt, and are prosperous. The mines, instead of being worked out, seem to be only partially developed. Quartz ledges that have lain idle and scarcely represented, are now being worked with success. The great drawback heretofore in the development of the mineral resources of the county has been the want of capital, and the immense cost of mining machinery, but now that this county has an opening to the outside world, in the shape of a good railroad, that obstacle will be removed, and the millions of dollars now in the rocks will be taken out, and a large profit will be had to the operator.

GRANT

Is another of the state-like counties of Eastern Oregon. It is for the most part mountainous, but it contains many good agricultural districts. Mining and stock-raising are the chief industries. The John Day Valley, for seventy miles, is a long and narrow strip of rich agricultural land, producing the choicest cereals, at the rate of forty bushels per acre. But it must be borne in mind that so narrow is the belt of arable land that it is impossible to work any great number of acres to advantage. Dairy farming could be made profitable if there were anything more than a local market for the products of the valley. But as it is wholly off the line of established railroad routes, it will be, in all probability, the last county of three

eastern slope counties to settle up and become wealthy. Hydraulic mining has spoiled a great deal of good land, but even that is still worth something for pasturage. Grant county is a vast stock range, and has the largest stock ranch in Oregon,—Todhunter and Devine's—within its limits. These gentlemen average 8,000 calves per year on this ranch, besides 11,000 more on another ranch, across the line in Nevada State. They are also noted as breeders of running stock, at long distances, and have bred extensively from the best stock in America. Grant County has sent out 80,000 head of beef cattle in the past seven years, of which, about one-fifth came to Portland's shambles. Silver has been discovered in the Blue Mountains, but the presence of arsenic has always rendered the ledges unprofitable. The natural springs of Grant County are a sufficient guarantee of a healthy section of country. The famous soda spring on the north-east corner of the Malheur reservation greatly resemble the waters of the famed Apollinaris springs of Dresden, in Germany, and their excellence as a diuretic is not to be gainsaid. On the head of John Day River are Sulphur springs, to which the miners repair from all parts of Idaho, who have been unfortunate enough to become salivated with mercury while retorting amalgam in the diggings. On Indian Creek, twelve miles above Canyon City, is a lime spring, which is said to be excellent in curing scrofulous diseases. The principal avocation in the western part of Grant County is sheep raising, and there are seven men and firms who are owners of flocks exceeding 10,000 head. As the summers are excessively hot and wool is more valuable than mutton, they breed mostly from the French merino blood. None of the wool is manufactured within the county, and all goes abroad to be worked up. Grant County was settled originally by miners from the three northern counties of California—Siskiyou, Shasta and Trinity—and these people have brought with them the traditional hospitality of the Argonautic era. The whole population of the county is not over 6,000. I would say to those intending immigrants, who like the busi-

ness of sheep raising, that Grant County is an excellent place for that business, although I consider Douglas County just as good, and with a far more agreeable climate. We will now close our review of Oregon, by briefly sketching

UNION

County, which occupies the northeast corner of Oregon, and is a very large county. It is mostly hill land but there are many small valleys, and one large one, the Willowa. Union is a splendid stock and butter county and it is finely adapted to fruit growing. Horse breeding is a great industry in this section. The bare and timberless hills are covered with succulent grass, called bunch grass, while the pasturage in the pine forests, though nutritious in its nature, is so well sheltered that cattle keep fat and strong during the severest winters. There are two considerable towns in the county, Union and La Grande.

Kind reader, our sketch of Oregon is now completed. In the compilation of this work I have been greatly assisted by reliable information from the *Weekly Oregonian*, the leading paper of the northwest, though a great part of my work is entirely original. In my occupation of a canvassing agent, I have traveled on foot on nearly every public road and highway in the following counties in Western Oregon: Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Linn, Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Benton, Polk, Tillamook, Yamhill, Washington, Columbia and Wasco. So I have had every opportunity to gain a knowledge of the country. My journeyings also extended all over Western Washington Territory, and we will describe that country further on. I have lived in the following states: I was born and raised in Ross county, Ohio, and lived in Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Missouri, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, Indian Ty., Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, California, Oregon, Washington Ty. and British Columbia; and taking all things into consideration, I prefer old Webfoot Oregon to any of the others I have lived in. I find that that country is not in America that has no drawback. There is bound to be some ob-

jectional feature. I have made up my mind that Oregon is good enough for me. And now, if after reading what I have here written of Oregon, and it should be the means of inducing you to come to this state, let me tell you that if you bring no capital, or at least very little, and if it is your desire to get hold of vacant government land, then I know of no better place than either Tillamook, Clatsop, Coos, Curry, Lane and Benton counties. Of course nearly all the other counties have some vacant land, but all the best fit for agriculture has been taken long ago, while in the counties named above, they are as yet very sparsely settled, and especialy is this so of Tillamook and Curry counties. There is plenty of room and land in the above named six counties to supply 10,000 families with a free and happy home. But the first few years you must expect to work, and work hard, too. Once you can get ten to twenty acres in cultivation then you can take life easy, for that country I have yet to see where a farmer can make a good living as easy as he can here in Oregon. Back in the eastern states a farmer must work hard for eight months in the year to be able to live out the other four. In April you are following a breaking plow all day, in May and June you plant your corn and plow it some the latter part of June, then through July comes harvesting and threshing up till about the first of September, then you cut and shock corn, and in October and November you must husk and crib it; then comes a season of nearly freezing to death. Oh, my eastern friends I have been there and don't want any more of it. I believe I have said all that is necessary regarding Oregon; but I will add that if any one who has bought this book, and if there is any questions you would like further information on about any particular county or locality, then write to me stating your questions plainly, and I will answer you by letter to the best of my ability, providing you inclose a two cent stamp for reply. But I will only do this free to those who have bought and paid for this book; but I think if you will examine the book closely, you will find all your questions answered.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

EASTERN WASHINGTON

Is that part of the territory east of the Cascade Mountains, but it should only properly be applied to that section east of the Columbia river. This latter district is composed of Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Whitman, Spokane, Stevens, Asso-tin, Lincoln, Douglas, Adams and Franklin counties. The oldest and richest of these counties is Walla Walla. Here the first farming settlement was made; here the first wheat was raised; here the first railroad was built and here now is the first development and the greatest wealth. Walla Walla Valley contains about 36 square miles and is watered by the Walla Walla river. It is a light rolling prairie of rich ash-alkali soil, and is finely adapted by situation and surface features for general farming. It was not timbered originally, but is now dotted thickly over with green orchards and groves of waving poplars, each dot indicating the location of a thrifty farm. The whole valley is thickly settled and the greater part of it is under the plow. For twenty years after the first settlement in this region it was thought that only the narrow strip which bordered the river was fertile, but experiments on the higher land known as "benches," demonstrated the fact that they would yield well, and now these lands, once thought to be worthless, yield fine crops of wheat and are quite as valuable as the lower flat land. Walla Walla, Garfield and Columbia counties form a section by themselves south of Snake river. Their chief product is wheat, and this year they have shipped a surplus of more than 180,000 tons. The city of Walla Walla is one of the most beautiful inland towns in America. Its streets, which run northeast and southwest and transversely, are wide and beautiful avenues.

Rows of slender and graceful poplars line the sidewalks and give a grove like air to the town whose location is on a level plain, originally treeless. Business is centered on one main street about a mile long on which are located many business buildings which would not be discreditable to Portland or even San Francisco. The greater number of the business houses, however, are cheap wooden affairs. The business of Walla Walla is tremendous. Merchandise sales this year will aggregate at least \$1,500,000, to which, in computing the general business of the place, farm machinery sales amounting to fully \$300,000. There is not in the city a single wholesale house, the figures representing a personal and retail business whose activity may be imagined. Another important town in Walla Walla county is Waitsburg, eighteen miles east of the city of Walla Walla and on the line of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company's line, is a local center in this district. It is on the Touchet river, a small rapid stream not navigable, has a population of 1,500, and is the market and point of supply for a great region between the Touchet and Snake rivers. Trade comes to Waitsburg from twenty miles east, fifteen miles south, fifteen miles west and thirty miles north. Not all the trade of this wide field is controlled by Waitsburg, but lines of road lead out in these directions and the people living along them come into the town. Annual merchandise sales amount to over \$400,000, not including large sales of farm machinery, and 4,500 tons of wheat were shipped this year. The water power of the Touchet is fine at Waitsburg, and it is employed to run a mill which, besides local grinding, turns out 150 barrels of flour per day for export.

The county seat and principal town of Columbia county is Dayton. It is a well built wooden town of about 1,800 population and with a property valuation of \$1,500,000. It enjoys a large trade and is a commercial point on the O. R. & N. Co's. line. This small river district is in the main a heavily rolling plateau, whose average elevation above the ocean level is about 1,200 feet. It is treeless except in occasional spots, and is

everywhere covered with rich bunch grass. The soil is a light decomposed ash highly tinged with alkali; yields readily to the plow and is highly productive. The climate is dry, warm in summer—the thermometer frequently registering plus 100 degrees and even higher—and cold in winter, when minus twenty degrees and even lower is known. The rainfall varies in different localities from twelve to twenty-five inches per year, and specially favored valleys escape the extremes of heat and cold.

WHITMAN

County lies just north of the Snake river, and is a heavily rolling region of great fertility. In it is the famous Palouse country. Wheat and flax are produced in great quantities and hauled in wagons to the Snake river for shipment. This was the only way the people had of getting their grain to market until about four years ago, when the country was pierced by a branch railroad from the Northern Pacific road, and its crops since then have been carried off by rail. The advent of the railroad has given production a great "boom," and has attracted many hundreds of new settlers. Colfax, the center of this region, is a busy town which sells about a million dollars worth of goods each year. It has recovered fully from the disastrous fire of 1882, and is growing rapidly. There is much desirable land available for settlement in the Palouse country, and settlers are cordially welcomed.

The region north of Whitman county, and through which the Northern Pacific railroad runs, is called the Spokane country. The Washington legislature four years ago made a radical change in county lines, creating no less than six new local governments, whose boundaries are not yet marked on all the maps. The country for the most part is finely adapted for farming, and is rapidly filling up. The centers are Sprague, Cheney, and Spokane Falls. The former is a railroad town of 1600 population. The shops of the Pen d'Oreille division are here, and fully half the population is in one way or another in the

service of the railroad company. It is attracting many settlers, for the country near at hand is productive rolling prairie and favorable for general farming. Land is cheaply and easily obtained from the railroad company, or from the government under the homestead and pre-emption laws.

Cheney is the center of a large agricultural district ; it has no peculiar natural advantages outside of its situation with reference to a large farming country, and has not in any way been favored by the railroad company ; but it has the very great advantage of being accessible to a greater area of farming country than either Spokane Falls, its rival on one side, or Sprague, its rival on the other. It is located about midway between the southeastern and northwestern extremity of a ridge from five to twenty miles wide, about sixty miles long, and whose soil is the best character of general farming land. The oldest settlement in this country was made in 1880, and of course the farms are very new, but they are also very productive, and great crops are marketed at Cheney. The population of Cheney is something over 2000.

North of the Spokane country is a section known as the Colville country. It is large enough for six good-sized counties, and is but very sparsely settled. Its thousands of acres of rich land to be had for the taking, are wide and inviting.

The Big Bend country, just east of the Columbia river, is a wide and rich region, into which immigration just began to turn in 1884, and there is plenty of room there to-day for over a thousand more families ! It must be borne in mind that the climate in this part of the territory is entirely different from the part called Western Washington. In this, the eastern part, they have hot weather in summer, and very cold in winter. Generally speaking, all this eastern section is prairie land—but not the level prairie land as seen in Nebraska and Kansas. In a general way, it is very rolling. Of course, to people who are accustomed to living in a cold climate—such as the winters in Michigan, Minnesota, Dakota, Iowa, and other Northern states—the climate here will not seem severe ; neither will the heat in

summer be any more oppressive than it is in these same northern states.

Walla Walla county has the following post offices: Walla Walla, Prescott, Dixie, Estes, Mullan, Berryman, Touchet, Waitsburg and Wallula.

Whitman county has the following offices: Almota, Belmont, Clenton, Coin, Colfax, Colton, Diamond, Elberton, Endicott, Ewartsville, Farmington, Garfield, Guy, Hooper, Lone Pine, Ontario, Palouse, Pampa, Penawawa, Pine City, Pullman, Rosalla, Steptoe, Sutton, Taxsas, Vulcan and Uniontown.

Garfield county has: Pomeroy, Alpoawa, Tukannon, Iliia, May View, Pataha City, Peola and Vernon.

Columbia county has: Alto, Covello, Dayton, Huntsville Marengo, Perry, Riparia and Starbuck.

Lincoln county has Brents, Capps, Crab Creek, Crescent, Davenport, Davisine, Earl, Egypt, Fairview, Geer, Grand Coulee, Harrington, Hesseltine, Kelley, Sassin, Larene, Miles, Mordovi, Sedalis and Sherman.

Stevens county has Che-we-lah, Colville, Harvey, Hunters, Marcus, Siwash and Walker's Prairie.

Asotin, Adams, Franklin, Douglas and Kittitas counties are all in the eastern part of the territory, and the soil climate and productions and general features and business occupations are the same as the rest of the counties we have been describing, and they are all new counties organized for the most part in 1883-4.

Asotin has the following post offices: Anatone, Asotone, Lake, Silcott and Theon.

Adams county offices are Paha, Ritzville and Washtucna.

Franklin county has Connell, Kahlotus, Pasco, (Ainsworth.)

Douglas county has Badger, Moses Coulee, O'Kanogan and Voorhees.

Kittitas county has Cle Elum, McCallum, Milton, Roslyn, Teanaway and Wanatchee.

MIDDLE WASHINGTON,

Or what ought to be so-called, lies north of the Columbia river and consists of Skamania, Klickitat and Yakima counties. This region is not unlike Wasco and Umatilla counties in Oregon, which lie south and across the Columbia river. Elevated table lands, rich valley lands and splendid forests abound. The country is populated in an irregular way and affords fine opportunities for settlers.

Klickitat borders on the Columbia river, which affords a means of getting to market; and Yakima was opened up in 1885 by a railroad connecting with the Northern Pacific at the mouth of Snake river. The products of these three counties are the same as Wasco and Umatilla counties in Oregon, except Yakima county has immense forests of fir and pine timber, and last summer good logging men received four and five dollars a day working in the logging camps. The towns and post offices of Yakima county are Brown, Cloverdale, Burge, Fort Simcoe, Moxie, North Yakima, Prosser, Tampico, Webb, Selah and Yakima. There is plenty of vacant land in this county and some fine situations for stock raising and dairying.

Klickitat county has more prairie land than Yakima or Skamania, but all the choice land of this kind is taken up. There are a great many Russian Finns in the Klickitat valley; they have fine farms and plenty of stock. Land can be bought at about \$10 an acre, slightly improved. But there is plenty of government land in the western part of the county near the foothills. Goldendale is the county seat and only important town of Klickitat county and has a population of about 1500. It has a good trade with the surrounding farmers. Much attention is paid to raising fine horses and *caruses*, and a man can buy a good pony of this description for from \$10 to \$20. They are only fit for saddle horses or to drive to a light spring wagon or buggy. The other towns of Klickitat county are Block-house, Centerville, Cleveland, Columbus, Crimea, Dot, Fulda, Wildcat, Luna, Lyle and White Salmon.

Skamania county lies along the Columbia river and is a very rough and mountainous county generally speaking, though there are some narrow valleys where the soil is very rich. This county is very sparsely settled and there is plenty of room for hundreds of families. The main industries of the county are logging, stock raising and dairying. The post offices of Skamania county are Cascades, Cape Horn, Chenowith and Skye. Climate warm in summer and cold in winter.

WESTERN WASHINGTON

Occupies an area of about thirty thousand square miles. More than half of it is mountainous and almost the whole of it is heavily timbered; certainly not more than one-twelfth of it is prairie land. Puget Sound, famed as the finest inland body of water in the world, reaches from the northern end of Western Washington through the middle half way to the Oregon line. Briefly, Puget Sound is an arm of the ocean a hundred miles inland, and extending north and south parallel with the coast for 150 miles. It varies in width from five to fifteen miles, and intersects its shores with hundreds of bays and little ports. A long, broad strait, running east and west, connects its northern entrance with the ocean, and its salt waters rise and fall with the ocean tides. Everywhere it is deep, and magnificent evergreen forests crowd its shores and almost into its waters on every side. Hundreds of wooded islands afford a panorama of the picturesque, and rugged snow mountains in constant view give a touch of grandeur and complete a beautiful picture. But beauty is incidental, and goes for but little by itself. Of greater importance is it that ships can float on Puget Sound, that fishes swim its waters; that the bays and ports afford good anchorage; that the timber is the finest in the world for spars and ships and houses—that its climate is mild and healthful, that the lands which lie near its shores are fruitful, that the mountains yield iron and coal, that natural conditions for the living and happiness of a million people are here.

The great industries of Puget Sound are timber and coal production. Nine large merchant mills are located along its shores and their daily lumber cut is nearly a million feet. These mills in almost every instance are owned by San Francisco capitalists, and their product is carried by sailing vessels to the San Francisco market and to foreign countries. South America is the largest foreign purchaser, and Australia is the next. Coal from the mines, all owned by non-residents, is carried by large iron steam colliers to San Francisco and to Portland. The monthly output of coal from these mines is almost 30,000 tons, and it could easily be increased to several times that amount.

The other industries of Puget Sound are local, but not small because local. The timber business is the great characteristic industry of Western Washington ; it directly affects all other branches of business, and for labor and supplies disburses many millions of dollars each year.

The first city of Puget Sound is Seattle, but not far behind it in point of population and activity, and not a whit behind it in ambition is Tacoma. The city of Tacoma has independent resources, however, and is running a heavy tilt with Seattle for the chief business and commerce of the Sound, now held by the city of Seattle. It is advancing in population and in every material way at an amazing pace.

Port Townsend is a growing city at entrance of the Sound, and is not without hope for future greatness. Olympia at the extreme southern point of the Sound, is the territorial capital, and is content with its character as a political and social headquarters and its prosperity as a thriving local center.

Whatcom and La Conner in the extreme northern counties are important towns. The character of the country in the various Puget Sound counties is almost identical. Everywhere the country is forest covered to the margin of the water, excepting along the hundreds of streams which put into the Sound, and on the tide flats. The bottom and tide lands are wonder-

fully productive, and will produce enough in the agricultural line to feed a great population.

Hops are a profitable crop, particularly in the valley of the Puyallup ; and all fruits and vegetables of the temperate zone grow in great excellence. The country is not a farming region in the ordinary sense, but its rural population could be many times multiplied without exhausting the supply of good productive land. In Whatcom county there is a considerable section of good farming land, and on it there is considerable production of grain, which goes to California.

The coast section of Western Washington is rich in resources. The valleys of the Black and Chehalis rivers westward towards the coast from Olympia, contain much good grain and general farming land, and there is talk of tapping them with a railroad. The bays of Shoalwater and Gray's Harbor are intersected with small rich valleys, all highly fertile. And all through the timbered district between Puget Sound and the Columbia river there are open spaces in which prosperous settlements may be found.

Cowlitz and Clarke counties on the Columbia river have much good rich land ; and being near Portland by water transportation find their market near home. In both counties there are considerable areas adapted for grain growing and general farming. The river counties further west are chiefly valuable for their timber and fishing interests. Vancouver, in Clarke county, is the U. S. land office for this district.

Clarke county is one of the oldest settled counties of the territory, and yet there is considerable vacant land in the county, but it lies back from the Columbia river, twenty to thirty miles. Improved farms can be bought cheap—say from \$10 to \$20 per acre. Lewis river, emptying into the Columbia, is a fine little stream, navigable as far up as La Center, some twenty miles from its mouth. A great many farmers of Clarke county are putting out prune orchards, as that is really one of the safest as well as the most profitable investments a farmer can make in this country. Vancouver is a very handsome little city, while

the United States barracks located here, is the pride of the county. The population of Clarke county is now about 11,000 and steadily increasing.

COWLITZ

County lies directly west of Clarke county and its southern boundary is the Columbia river. Cowlitz county has one navigable river, the Cowlitz, which is navigable for small steamers for forty miles from its mouth. Kalama is the county seat, situated on the Columbia river. *The Cowlitz County Advocate*, the only paper in the county, is published here. Kalama once had glowing prospects of becoming a great city, but its luster is now dimmed, and although it may some day become a considerable town, yet it will never equal Seattle, as its location is not suitable nor attractive, situated as it is on the side of a steep hill. Freeport, a small town situated on the bank of the Cowlitz river some ten miles from its mouth, is finely located and surrounded by a rich farming section and has every prospect of becoming a prosperous town in the near future. Toledo, a larger town than Freeport, is situated on the same river some twenty miles above Freeport, and it is also the last town up the river in this county. After going ten or fifteen miles still up the river from Toledo, you come to the unsettled part of the county, except an occasional settler will be found who has immured himself in this dense forest country and is endeavoring to make a home for himself and family; but it will take years of toil and hardships to do it, for this part of the country is heavily timbered. The logging business forms the chief industry of the county, though there are many fine farms, chiefly located along the Cowlitz river. There are thousands of acres of vacant lands in this county awaiting the sturdy settler. The post offices of this county are as follows: Kalama, Freeport, Castle Rock, Carrollton, Jackson, Kelso, Mt. Coffin, Oak Point, Olequa, Sightly, Silver Lake, Stella, Toutle, Tower, Tucker and Woodland.

WAHKIAKUM

County lies west² of Cowlitz and also fronts on the Columbia

river. The main industry is logging, and in fact, it is about the only important branch of business carried on in the county, as this is not a farming county, and it will be many years before it will be, as almost the entire county is one vast forest of heavy timber. The post offices of this county are Brookfield, Cathlamet, (county seat), Deep River, Gray's River, Stark's Point, Skamokawa and Waterford. Nearly half of the land in Wahkiakum county is still vacant, but don't go to this county with the intention of farming, as there are many more places far more desirable.

PACIFIC

County lies west of Wahkiakum, and is the extreme southwestern county of the territory. It is also a far better county than Wahkiakum in all respects, save the timber industry, and is almost equal in that respect. This county contains the famed sheet of water called Shoalwater Bay, famed for its oyster beds. Oysterville, the county seat, and a town of about 250 inhabitants, is situated on the south side of the bay, and the inhabitants of the town are nearly all engaged in the oyster business, as are also the people of Bay Center, another small town further up the bay. Ilwaco is the famed seaport town and as a bathing resort it has no superior on the Pacific coast north of California. The beach is just one mile from the town, and it is a smooth, level beach fifteen miles in length. A large and fine hotel and numerous cottages are built in a few rods of the beach, but all of them are unoccupied only during the bathing season. The Willapa river, a fine little river, empties into Shoalwater Bay and is navigable for about thirty miles from its mouth. Willapa city, generally called Woodard's landing, is the farthest town up the river. South Bend is the first town up the river from its mouth, and from South Bend on up the river, the country is settled on both sides as far as fifteen miles above Willapa City. Some of these old settlers came here thirty-five years ago, and most of these old settlers are pretty well fixed. There are thousands of acres of vacant land

in this county, some on the Willapa river up near the foot of the mountains. I crossed these mountains four years ago by following the blazes on the trees. It was a long, lonesome journey to make on foot, with a distance of fifty miles between the two nearest houses. I had to camp out all night on top of the mountain with some fir branches for my bed; but the worst part of it was, I had nothing to eat from the morning I started until noon of the following day; and I saw fine timber enough during this fifty mile walk to supply the state of Kansas in fuel and building lumber for the next fifty years, if it could be so applied. I saw several deer and hundreds of pheasants and grouse. I stopped at South Bend awhile, and while there I wrote two short articles descriptive of Pacific county, which were published in the *Toledo Blade*. I wrote over the *nom de plume* of Clayton V. Wilder. I received many letters of inquiry from people all over the United States, and it was partly on that account that I concluded to write and publish this book. About ten miles north of the Willapa river is a section of country called Smith River Valley. This is a fine valley and capable of furnishing homes for over a hundred families. There are as yet only a few families located here. Of course the valley is not prairie land. It is all covered with timber, but a large portion of it is small and easily cleared off; such as vine maple, alder and thimble berry brush. There is a great deal of logging done in this county, and most all the logs are sawed up into lumber at the large mill owned by Simpson Bros. at South Bend. On each side of the river are numerous sloughs, some of them extending a mile or two back from the river, and it is an easy matter to roll the logs into these sloughs, and then when a raft of logs is completed they are floated out on the outgoing tide into the river, and from there they are towed by a small steamer to South Bend. Nearly all the farmers along the river follow logging in winter and during their spare time in summer. Thus they sell their logs at a good price and are gradually getting their land cleared off at the same time. The tide grass along these sloughs keeps green al-

most the year round, as along several of these sloughs the timber is very sparse, thus allowing the grass to grow abundantly, and stock keep in good order the year round. The post offices of Pacific county are Oysterville, Bay Center, Ilwaco, Willapa City, South Bend, Long Beach, Nasel, North Cove and Sunshine. Population of the county about 4000. The way to get to the Bay is to go from Portland, Oregon, to Astoria by steamboat, there cross the Columbia river to Ilwaco, thence by stage to Oysterville, which is a twenty mile drive right on the ocean beach, and from Oysterville you go up the Willapa river by steamer, or go across the bay to North Cove; and from there it is ten miles to Smith River Valley.

CHEHALIS

County lies due north of Pacific county, and like the latter county, it also contains a fine body of water called Gray's Harbor. The Chehalis river, emptying into this harbor, is navigable for small steamboats as far up as the town of Montesano, which is situated about thirty miles from mouth of the river. Gray's Harbor is unquestionably the greatest, and in all respects and especially in a commercial sense, the most desirable and the most liberally endowed with practical features, of any of the other estuaries of, or inlets from the sea on this coast from San Francisco to the Straits of Fuca, not even excepting the Columbia river. Its commercial capacity is of a very extensive and remarkable character; and while it has long been handicapped by contemporaneous and jealous competing points, its deserving qualities are now becoming established and widely known; and they are attracting capital and enterprise at a rate which must in a very few years make this magnificent body of water the scene and center of surpassing business activity and colossal commercial enterprises. In support of these assertions and of what he may say further on, the writer deems it but justice to his readers and to the subject to introduce at this juncture some official testimony, thus presenting an array of authoritative facts which cannot be successfully controverted;

and we therefore incorporate here an extract from the official report of Mr. Robert A. Habersham, who, under the supervision of Capt. Charles F. Powell, chief of the United States engineers, made a survey of the lower harbor and its bar in the summer of 1881. Mr. Habersham says:

"To the Chief of Engineers, U. S. A.:

"U. S. ENGINEERING OFFICE,
"PORTLAND, Or., Nov. 2, 1881. }

"SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report with chart of the entrance to Gray's Harbor, Washington Territory, surveyed by me under the direction of Maj. G. L. Gillespie, corps of engineers, in July last.

"The entrance to the harbor lies in latitude 46 degrees and 55 seconds N., and longitude 124 degrees and 8 seconds West from Greenwich. Three and one-half miles southwest, magnetic bearing, from the entrance is the bar, which is 7000 feet wide, traversed by three channels—respectively, 18, 17 and 19 feet deep at low tide—separated by shoaler spots on which was found from 11 to 15 feet at low tide. On these the sea breaks frequently when the waves are from six to eight feet high, leaving the deep channels between them clearly marked by absence of breakers. The average distance across the bar between the curves of 18 feet is 1500 feet, and the navigable depth 18 feet at the average of lowest of low tides.

"I am informed by residents of the vicinity that it is only during very heavy weather that the sea breaks clear across the bar. A current of two miles per hour flows over the bar southward during flood, and northward during ebb tide. Inside of the bar the channel, flanked on both sides by the constant surf on the north and south spits, decreases in width to 2300 feet at the entrance between Points Brown and Hanson to the harbor; here it is 100 feet deep.

"By comparing the present chart with that of the United States Coast Survey of 1862, it will be seen that within the last nineteen years the channel through the bars has moved two miles, and the entrance to the harbor 1,000 feet southward; that the ruling depth of the bar has increased by from two to three feet, and that the course across the bar and into the harbor is now nearly straight.

"As the average tidal range is six feet, and during spring tides nine feet, vessels drawing from eighteen to twenty feet can reach the anchorage without a tug at the proper stage of tide,

except when the wind blows from the eastward. Pilots familiar with this bar all agree in pronouncing it safe and easy of passage. One buoy will suffice to mark the channel.

"The harbor covers an area of seventy square miles. The channels of the Chehalis, Humptulips, and John's rivers, the principal tributary streams, unite inside the entrance and form an anchorage sheltered by Points Brown and Hanson, with 4500 acres of area from thirty to fifty feet deep at low tide with excellent holding-ground.

"Gray's Harbor is the only natural outlet of a tract of country containing 2600 square miles, rich in timber, mineral, agricultural and grazing lands. Of this tract 2,000 square miles lie in the valleys of the Chehalis and its tributaries, which will be found particularly described in my report of an examination of that river and the adjacent territory, made in last August.

"The country immediately around the harbor is covered with timber generally too small for profitable manufacture into lumber, but furnishing shelter through the year to large herds of cattle, which fatten on the tender undergrowth and grasses, requiring to be fed only during severe cold weather, which, as is well known, occurs but rarely on this coast.

"Beginning half a mile from the shore, the heavy timber—consisting of fir, spruce, cedar, hemlock and maple, with alders and cottonwood on the streams—covers the country to the snow line of the mountain range which lies between the coast and Puget Sound, interspersed by fertile prairies and cranberry marshes, more especially in the valley of the Humptulips.

"ROBERT A. HABERSHAM,

"Assistant Engineer.

"Capt. CHARLES F. POWELL,

"Corps of Engineers, U. S. A."

THE CENTRAL CHEHALIS VALLEY REGION.

The vast central basin known as the Chehalis Valley, which is rapidly acquiring an extended and well deserved reputation for great fertility, magnificent and practical resources and for the favorable basis which it offers for the building up of homes and fortunes, lies directly west of the southern extremity of Puget Sound, about midway between the straits of Fuca and the Columbia river, and extends from within a few miles of the waters of the sound to the open Pacific ocean at Gray's Harbor. The valley is of a very considerable extent, having an

area of nearly 3000 square miles, and its two great central features are Gray's Harbor, its natural outlet, and the Chehalis river, a powerful and navigable stream tributary to that fine body of water. Tributary to them, and flowing both from the north and south, are numerous smaller streams, some of them of considerable size, and furnishing when combined, nearly 2000 miles of practical water way, all of which is available for lumbering purposes, and much of which is navigable. The valleys of these streams, and of the Chehalis as well, are all very fertile, not subject to disastrous freshets, and this latter fact is a feature due to natural causes, which give the low lands of this county an immense advantage over almost any other lands of similar character in the entire coast and sound region. The streams of this region do not rise far up in the mountains, and their course is more extended and accompanied with less fall than is the place elsewhere in the territory, and therefore, the overflows are never formidable, dangerous or destructive, and they always occur in the winter and never in the summer season, so that the valleys are rather enriched and benefitted than damaged by their recurrence. These valleys, in the aggregate, comprise an extensive and inviting region which for a large amount of really valuable arable land, an immense array of multiplied resources, and a combination of leading and easily developed wealth producing elements, probably stands without a parallel upon the western coast. The greater portion of them still in a state of nature, is covered with an unusually light growth of alder, salmon brush and vine maple easily cleared, and there are also many small prairies interspersed with this timber, these having as a rule, a rich soil, especially in the central and lower Chehalis country. All these lands produce the finest grasses, grains, vegetables and fruits, and have been found especially adapted to the dairy interests, which up to the present time, has been a leading industry in the valley. The uplands of this region, unlike those of most other portions of the territory, are not gravelly and sterile, but possess a fine clay loam soil, capable of being converted, when

cleared, into excellent grazing and agricultural land. They are now covered with a magnificent growth of heavy timber, consisting of red, white and yellow fir, cedar, hemlock, etc., and this is pronounced by men of extensive experience, to be the finest and best adapted to lumbering purposes of any body of timber as yet known on this coast, a fact which, taken in connection with the excellent advantages for handling it offered by the numerous fine logging streams of this region, justifies the conclusion, that this valley is destined to shortly become one of the great lumbering centers of the Pacific northwest, and a lumbering region is always a moneyed center.

THE WYNOOCHIE

Valley which joins the Chehalis at Montesano, is one of the most remarkable and beautiful in all Western Washington. It is some eighty miles in length, extending from the foot-hills of the Olympic range, in a southerly direction to its junction with the Chehalis, and averaging in width as to its bottom lands from one-fourth of a mile to a mile, while back from there for miles extends a vast and solid body of timber, consisting of fir, spruce and cedar, which for general lumbering purposes and merchantable qualities cannot be surpassed in any country, and all of which can be easily driven down the Wynoochie, one of the finest logging streams on the coast, which courses through it. This stream may well be called "beautiful." Clear, clean, swift, pure, sparkling and cool—a true child of the mountains, yet never washing its banks or getting out of them to any appreciable or damaging extent, it is the central figure of a region of most inviting and practical prospects. The soil along its shores is a deep sandy loam of unusual fertility and marked lasting qualities; and as the growth in the bottoms is very light and easily disposed of, and a good road leads down the valley to Montesano, home-seekers are naturally drawn to it, and are hardly ever dissatisfied with the inducements to settlement which it presents.

A considerable number of settlers have located here, and

some few have been here a great many years, and there is abundant room for many more when the large tracts now held by individuals are divided up according as they should be. Much of the upper valley is still unsurveyed, but this does not deter people from settling therein; and at the present rate of advancement, it will not be many years before this fine tract of country will be wholly occupied by a happy and prosperous people.

The Satsop valley is not so liberally endowed with desirable qualities as is the Wynoochie, though it embraces a fine body of land, and will afford homes for a large number of families when its many merits become generally known. The stream flows down from the mountains, parallel with, and but a few miles east of the Wynoochie, and in many respects it closely resembles the latter stream, but it has much less of either good land or good timber tributary to it.

The upper North River country, which is tributary to that portion of the Chehalis valley now under discussion, is possessed of many admirable characteristics; but its remoteness, it being from six to eight miles from the Chehalis river, and the fact that no adequate roads have as yet been built into it, has prevented its development. It is a fine body of land, still for the most part unappropriated, and it undoubtedly offers excellent inducements to a colony of energetic men locating in it in sufficient numbers—and in concert to carry with them and possess within themselves the elements of society, schools and other accompaniments of civilization; and we confidently look for its development upon this plan in the near future.

Having now briefly discussed the leading and tributary features of what we term the Central Chehalis valley, it is now in order to point out its most natural and available trade center, a feature which is essential to the success of any region. In this connection it is only necessary to mention one point, as there is and can be no other, and that is

MONTESANO.

This thriving little city is situated on a beautiful rolling prairie

a short distance from the Chehalis river ; and while it has had a nominal existence for many years, it is as regards actual development, really the creature of a day. Five years ago it was a mere sleepy hamlet, consisting of perhaps fifty people and a dozen buildings ; to-day it is an incorporated town of nearly a thousand people, with numerous good business establishments, though there is still room and a good field for more—good schools and churches, an academy, excellent hotels and livery stables, a live newspaper called the "Chehalis Valley Vidette," and many other branches of business—and is surrounded with tributary resources and advantages, which open up before it most flattering prospects, and which indicate positively that it must become an important commercial center. It is located at the head of tidewater navigation on the Chehalis, and even in the present condition of that stream, vessels drawing twelve feet of water can come to its wharves, while a little improvement of the channel below will enable any craft to reach it that can safely cross the Gray's Harbor bar. It is the natural and unavoidable center of the notable valleys described above, and all their products, increasing as they will from year to year, are destined to be handled in its markets. It is centrally located in, and the county seat of Chehalis county—one of the finest districts on this coast, within the limits of which, all more or less tributary to it, are located great natural advantages, and more numerous, and more important elements of wealth than are to be found in any other portion of Western Washington. It is the terminus of all stage lines from the east, and all water routes from the west, and is thus made the distributing point for all travel, and all commodities reaching this region by either of these methods of communication. It is the only point below Elma, some fifteen miles above it, that can be reached by wagon roads, and good highways lead to it down the Satsop, Chehalis and Wynoochie valleys.

This is a point of much greater importance than the casual observer would be led to suppose, especially in this country where the building of roads is a matter of considerable difficulty.

One of the principal and most effective factors in the building of Rome, one of the greatest cities of the ancient world, was the fact so noted that it passed into the saying :

“All roads lead to Rome !”

So in this valley all roads lead to Montesano ! And let those belittle the fact who will, it is nevertheless a condition of things which cannot but have a very favorable influence upon the growth of that flourishing young city ! In conclusion, it may well be said that this portion of the Chehalis valley is a good place in which to locate for any and all classes of immigrants. It is no longer a pioneer outpost. It has passed through the period when privations and hardships were to be expected and endured ; and though the time of waiting for it has been long and weary, light has at length broke through the darkness, and the well-advanced morning of a glorious day, for this country, is at hand !

The home-seekers of the great restless Eastern world, pushing forward in an adventurous spirit, or for the bettering of their fortunes, have heard of this goodly land and are determined to possess it ! Capital—convinced of the great richness and mighty scope of our unequalled, though as yet undeveloped, resources—has already planted its advance guard in our midst, and soon its solid columns will wheel into line, and cross swords with Nature in contention for the great prize which she has so long in peaceful possession, guarded so carefully ; and this mighty power, combined with its climate and sanitary advantages, and the eager inclinations of the thousands who are pressing forward to establish homes in this valley, cannot fail to make settlement in it very profitable, and, in the near future, very pleasant.

UPPER CHEHALIS REGION AND ITS RESOURCES.

We have heretofore discussed at some length the various characteristics of the lower and central Chehalis valley region, and we now turn our attention to that vast fertile and liberally endowed tract of country extending from the Satsop river to the headwaters of the Chehalis river, and known as the upper

valley. This section embraces a tract of country sixty miles long, and from twenty to twenty-five miles wide, and contains a numerous array of resources most remarkable in character and most advantageous to the immigrant in search of a home and a comfortable abiding place. This portion of the Chehalis river itself is worthy of more than a mere passing notice. It is a noble and an able stream rising on the northeastern slope of the mountain range, which separates the western extremity of the Columbia valley from the Puget sound basin, and embodying in its course to the ocean at Gray's Harbor, more valuable and practical features and characteristics than any other stream in Western Washington. According to authority taken from official surveys, the stream is navigable to Claquato, seventy miles above its mouth, for vessels drawing three feet of water for seven to eight months in the year, and as the only present obstructions to navigation are two drifts, which can be removed at an expense of not over ten thousand dollars, it will be conceded, that in view of the rapid improvement of the whole valley, these obstructions must shortly be disposed of, which being done, all the tributary region will be furnished with a natural and sufficient outlet to the markets of the world, and this latter is all that is necessary to render it one of the most desirable points of settlement in the whole northwest. The upper river drains an area of about 1200 square miles, from one-third to one-half of which is good agricultural land, susceptible of easy cultivation and being very fertile, the latter fact being especially true of the bottom or valley lands proper, which are from one to two miles wide, and covered, in a state of nature, with a very light growth of timber. The basin of the stream is entirely below the snow line, and its waters are supplied by the gentle rainfall upon the mountains in winter, when the dense vegetation makes its progress to the river so devious and slow, that violent floods are matters almost impossible. During the winter season when the highest water prevails, the usual rise above low water is from six to ten feet, and only one case is known where it has reached fifteen feet. The current

of the river has a rate of speed of from one to three miles an hour, and its banks are from five to ten feet high at low water with but little tendency to wash and cave off. This portion of the Chehalis has numerous tributaries of greater or less extent, and all adapted to lumbering and agriculture, and presenting many desirable locations for settlement. Among the most important of these are Delazene creek, Barker's creek, Gaddis creek, Workman creek, Lincoln creek, Mock Chehalis, Porters creek, Williams creek, Cedar creek, Black river, Skookum Chuck river and the Newaukum river. All these drain desirable tracts of country, and there is upon each of them more or less good land still vacant and capable of being converted into good homes at a reasonable expenditure of time and labor. This section of the Chehalis river is without doubt the agricultural district, par excellence, of this portion of the Pacific Coast. To an extensive body of good land, it adds a climate and soil, capable to a surprising degree of sustaining diversified agriculture. While in the lower valley only grasses and root crops flourish to perfection, here in the dryer climate, all grains and cereals, as well as roots, grasses and fruits grow with most astonishing prolificness. The yield of the soil is very bountiful and crops are rarely if ever, injured by droughts or pests of any description. From forty-five to seventy bushels of wheat, eighty to one hundred bushels of oats and from three to five hundred bushels of potatoes to the acre is not an unusual yield, while the meadow lands produce immense crops of hay of the most desirable quality. The timber interests of this vast region are truly stupendous, and must, in a few years, as soon as the forests convenient to tidewater have been consumed, contribute largely to the financial and general business benefit of this upper region, as they will be the basis of numerous lumbering enterprises, to which the producing interests of the district will be naturally and profitably tributary. The portion of country now under discussion, is much better settled and improved in an agricultural sense, than any other part of the great valley of which it is a part, and owing to its many ad-

vantages in the way of soil, climate and the many open or prairie districts which are scattered throughout it, it would now be even with, if not in advance of any similar region in Western Washington, were it not for the fact that up to the present date, its facilities for transportation have been of the poorest possible description, the sound markets being remote and difficult of access, and the only other method of transporting goods either into or out of the valley, being to navigate the Chehalis river by either skiff or scow, both precarious and unprofitable, and the scow especially objectionable because the scow once sent down the river could not be brought back, there being no steamers to take it in tow. Now, however, a prospect for the better is fast appearing, and it is an established fact, that good transportation facilities for the upper valley will be secured in the very near future. Several practical parties have now under contemplation, the putting on the river of small steamers sufficient for the trade, and thus an excellent outlet and market will be opened up for this heretofore isolated region. For a distance of twenty miles up the valley from the mouth of the Satsop river, its trade naturally centers at Elma, which is situated upon a beautiful, clean, gravelly prairie about one mile from the Chehalis river and fifteen miles east of Montesano. It is a bright and prosperous village of 300 inhabitants, with good society, schools, churches and business facilities sufficient and rapidly increasing, and general surroundings very favorable to growth and development. Much building has been done in the town during the past year, and there is an excellent prospect that there will be a very liberal expenditure of means upon both commercial and residence property there during the coming year and in the future generally. All travel to the lower valley must pass through it and stop for a time in it; it will be the first trading point in the whole valley to be reached by railroad, and has excellent prospects of being, for a time, the terminus of the Renton railroad, which will probably be built in the near future, and it will have the benefit of communication with the outside markets through the agency of the

steamers soon to be put upon the river as above indicated, and taken all in all, there is no good reason why it should not prosper and become a point of prominence.

In closing this sketch of the upper Chehalis valley, I will say I can heartily commend the district above discussed to the inspection of home-seekers, and if it receives the unprejudiced and patient consideration which it merits, we are confident that it can not fail to satisfy.

I will conclude this sketch of Chehalis county by giving the names of all the towns and post offices, which are as follows: Montesano, the county seat; Elma, Aberdeen, Bay City, Cedarville, Cosmopolis, Damon, Hoquiam, Laidlaw, Markham, Melbourne, Oakville, Peterson's Point, Satsop, Sharon and Summit. We will next give a brief description of

LEWIS

County, which lies north of Cowlitz county, and through which the Northern Pacific railroad passes on its way to Puget Sound.

This is in part an old settled county, especially along the line of the railroad. In the northern and southern part there is not much desirable vacant land, but in both the eastern and western portions, there are thousands of acres of good land; the land on the eastern slope of the county being the best for agriculture as the timber is somewhat lighter and the surface of the ground more level.

Most all of the extreme western portion is very heavily timbered, and this timber is a mine of wealth in itself, and when the timber is once disposed of, the soil will raise to perfection all fruits except peaches, all vegetables except sweet potatoes, and all kinds of grain except corn.

There is sufficient vacant land in Lewis county to-day, to furnish homes for at least 800 families, but of course you will not find it all ready for the plow when you get here, and I would say to all parties who have been accustomed to living in a prairie country, that the first glance you get of this country

will be rather discouraging, as it looks like a life-time job to clear out a home in this mighty wilderness, and in fact it is, if one should endeavor to clear up an entire quarter section of land, but all the settlers I have talked with seem to be satisfied with from ten to forty acres, the latter figure being about the highest limit, except in a few cases where some of the settlers were fortunate enough to get a location in some of the small prairies, several of which are to be found in this county, but most, if not all of this kind of lands was already taken long ago. But it is an undeniable fact, that ten acres in a state of good cultivation here, is worth more than forty acres of the old worn out land in the eastern states. Right in the good old state of Ohio, I have seen plenty of improved land that would not raise forty bushels of potatoes to the acre, and as for corn, why, I have cut corn in Ross County, Ohio, that I had to stoop away over to reach down and get hold of the tassel. Of course we do not claim western Washington to be a corn producing country, as the nights are too cool, but we do claim and can prove that 700 bushels of potatoes have been raised on one acre of land without any effort to break a previous record; also, that 900 bushels of rutabagas have been raised on one acre. I saw this done on the farm of Mr. John Lauderback of Willapa city, Pacific county, in this territory. But 300 bushels of potatoes is about the average yield per acre, and one other important point in raising potatoes here, you don't have to go over your potato patch every day to whip off the potato bugs, as we are not molested by such stripped backed pests.

The poultry business also pays well in this country, and should any of my readers who may come to this Pacific coast country and engage in that business, you need have no fear of that scourge to poultry—chicken cholera—as in my seven years residence here, I have never seen or heard of this disease among poultry. Neither do hogs have the hog cholera; neither does cattle die off with any contagious disease either in Washington or western Oregon.

About the only domestic animal to suffer such affliction is the horse. Occasionally a disease somewhat similar to the epizootic will spread among the horses, and a great many so afflicted have died. This disease has been more frequent in the Willamette Valley than any other portion of this country. Yet it has never spread through the whole valley, but was confined to one or two counties.

Chehalis, the county seat of Lewis county, is an enterprising little town on the N. P. R. R., and has a population of about 700 people; and is well represented in all branches of business pertaining to a farming center, as Chehalis is surrounded on all sides by a thrifty farming settlement.

In writing my sketch of Cowlitz county, I put the town Toledo in that county, which was a mistake, as it is in Lewis county, but not far from the line of Cowlitz county.

The industries of Lewis county are mixed farming, dairying and logging; there are also several saw mills in the county, but none of them as large as the Puget Sound mills.

If a man here has an eighty acre farm, and if he has fifteen or twenty acres in cultivation, it is called an improved farm, and such a farm can be bought in Lewis county at from \$700 to \$1200 according to location and buildings; and really I would sooner pay \$1000 for a farm of eighty acres, with twenty in cultivation and some buildings on it, than to go out in the wild wilderness and hew out a home on government land that I could get for the taking. There is plenty of good land all over Western Washington, that has from sixty to a hundred and fifty fir trees upon an acre, where each tree will be from three to five feet in diameter, and the tree itself from 200 to 300 feet high, while besides that number of large trees, there will be more than that number of smaller ones, besides a perfect wilderness of underbrush, consisting of young fir and cedar, vine maple and alder, hazel brush, salmon brush, salal brush and other smaller kinds too numerous to mention.

Well, lots of the larger stumps it will take two men for three days to grub one out of the ground, or it will take from five to

ten dollars worth of giant powder to blow one out of the ground, and in either case, when it is out of the ground it is still in the way, while you have a hole in the ground that you could dump an ordinary school house into. While the body of the tree itself is hard to get rid of, yet it can be done with fire and lots of hard labor and considerable patience.

Of course, if you are so located that you can sell your logs to some saw mill man, then the price you receive for your logs will pay for clearing your land and getting it ready for the plow. These few remarks will show that it is no child's play to make a home in Western Washington, although most every quarter section, especially those situated along some small river or creek, has on it from fifteen to fifty acres that is far more easily cleared, spots where there is very little, if any, of the large timber such as we have been describing, and where it is only covered with small brush, it is easily got rid of.

I would advise all newcomers from prairie regions to select such spots to begin operations, when they will have selected and secured their homestead or pre-emption. And there is plenty of vacant land suitable for agriculture, stock raising, dairying or logging, though there are other counties in Western Washington that are newer, and consequently has more, and perhaps better sections of vacant lands.

The post offices of Lewis county are Chehalis, the county seat; Centralia, a live, progressive railroad town some four or five miles north of Chehalis and just about as large as the latter town; then comes Ainslie, Boistfort, Claquato, Cowlitz, Ethel, Fayette, Ladew, Little Falls, Meadow, Mossy Rock, Napavine, Osborne, Pe-Ell, Rankin, Salkum, Silver Creek, Tildon, Toledo, Vance and Winlock; the last named and Napavine being lively little railroad towns.

PIERCE

County, with an area of 2000 square miles, extends westward from the Cascade range to Puget Sound, between White river and the fifth standard parallel upon the North and Nisqually

river on the south. Its shore line includes Commencement Bay or Tacoma harbor, The Narrows, and the splendid and commodious harbors of Steilacoom and Nisqually. Its county seat is Tacoma.

The growth of Pierce county in the past four years has been steady and remarkable, keeping pace with the progress and advance of Tacoma. In February, 1883, the annual assessment made the value of taxable property \$2,943,406—an increase of \$1,053,211 over the assessment of 1882. The census made at the same time returned a population of 6177; the previous biennial census in February, 1881, showing 2949—an increase of 95 per centum in two years! An assessment of taxable property at this time will amount to \$6,000,000. The present population of Pierce county is estimated at 13,000.

Pierce county, with its port, Tacoma, is known to the commercial world for its extensive production and exportation of coal, lumber, barrel material and hops. The mines at Carbonado are taking out and shipping daily an average of 800 tons, while the South Prairie mines produce and export from 200 to 250 tons per day. In the Puyallup valley, in 1884 there were 1038 acres planted in hops, producing about 625 tons.

I would say to men of capital who may come here, "If you have any desire to invest money in town property, there is no better place in which to invest the same, than in the city of Tacoma!"

A gentleman¹ of well-earned reputation, whose means of knowledge are of the amplest character—Hon. Paul Schulze, general land agent for the N. P. R. R. Co.,—thus sums up the "vast resources of the country which must find its outlet at Tacoma: First, to speak of the agricultural resources of that region, take the valley of Puyallup and its branches—the Stuck River valley, White River and Green River valleys—there is a vast amount of highly fertile land which can be brought under cultivation at comparatively small cost. Take it all in all, I believe the country immediately tributary to Tacoma can support a rural population almost equaling that now dwelling in

Willamette valley ! Then the coal industry is in its very infancy. There are also extensive beds of iron ore near the coal fields, and of limestone, all of which must find their outlet at Tacoma. Summing up, I am of the opinion that Tacoma is not only destined to become important as a port, but as a manufacturing center as well ! With vast forests, good coal, iron and limestone at its very doors, a rich agricultural country at its back, with its railroad and shipping facilities it cannot be otherwise."

However, I have been told by several gentlemen living just south of Tacoma, that in one particular section of the country the land is very poor—simply a hard white clay ; and that section lies south of Tacoma, beginning in five miles of the city, and extending on south on both sides of the railroad for about ten miles ; and it has every appearance of being very inferior, far below the average of the Puget Sound country. I do not say this to injure any parties who are now living there, but it is my aim to speak truthfully so far as my knowledge of the country goes. My own opinion of Pierce county is, that it is a number-one place for men of means to invest their money ; but I really think there are better places for a poor man with a family who is seeking for a home. I merely state the facts as gathered by my own observations or secured from trustworthy informants. I have no prejudices for nor against any particular locality. I also know that Pierce county, and particularly in and around Tacoma, is an excellent place for poor single men who desire to work for wages by day or month at hard manual labor ; for very high wages are paid in all branches of labor, whether in a sawmill, logging camp, coal mine, ship-yard, or fishing. Carpenters receive \$3.00 to \$3.50 per day, logging-camp men from \$40 to \$100 a month and board, according to what kind of work they do. Only the teamster or bull-whacker gets as high as \$100 ; while the sawyers, fallers and skidders get \$60 and \$65 ; swampers and barkers get \$40 to \$50. The greaser—whose duty it is to carry a bucket of grease in one hand and a brush in the other, and walk along just behind the rear yoke of oxen and rub his grease-brush over every skid just

before the end of the log reaches the skid—he receives from \$30 to \$40 a month. Sawmill hands get about \$40; rafters get \$2.50 a day. I do not know what the coal miners get, as most of them mine by the ton. School teachers get \$35 to \$60 a month. In country schools, male teachers generally receive \$40 a month and “board around.” I believe I have given all the information I possess concerning Pierce county, and will conclude by giving a list of the towns and post-offices—beginning with Tacoma, county seat, 7000 population; Alderton, Artondale, Carbonado, Fort Steilacoom, Gig Harbor, Hillhurst, Lake Bay, Lake View, Leber, Marion, Minter, Muck, Orting, Purdy, Puyallup, Rosedale, Roy, Sumner, Steilacoom City, Melrose and Wilkeson.

THURSTON

County is mainly noted as containing the city of Olympia, the capital of the territory.

I have no statistics of Thurston county, and as I have traveled very little over this county, I am not able to say very much in regard to it.

In the southern part of the county there are thousands of acres of very fine looking land still vacant and open to homestead entry. A large portion of it is easily cleared, and the surface of the ground is low land and level for this part of the country, with a rich black looking soil capable of producing grains, vegetables and fruits in abundance. Of course the country is timbered, but not so dense as in the northern part of the county. About ten miles south of Olympia and along the stage road leading down Black river to Montesano, is a kind of prairie district; it is some seven or eight miles long by two miles wide; there is no timber on it, and in fact, there don't seem to be anything grow on it but fern. I saw five deserted dwelling houses on it, and when I reached the timber region where people were living along the road, I asked several why the houses were deserted back on that prairie and the land grown up with fern, and they all said that the land would not

raise anything else but fern, and the people who had lived in the five deserted houses were starved out and had to leave the prairie, as the land was so poor it would not raise grass enough to the acre to keep a sheep from starving to death.

The industries of Thurston county, are mixed agriculture, dairying, stock raising, lumbering and fishing. The wages paid here are about the same as are paid in Pierce county.

At Tenino, a small town on the N. P. R. R., a narrow guage railroad connects and runs from there to Olympia, thus giving the people of the territorial capital a chance to get to the outside world. Steamboats also run daily from Olympia to Tacoma and Seattle. Olympia has a population of about 4000 people, and the population of the county would not exceed 8000 people, but there is plenty of room for three times that amount of people to find and make for themselves good and comfortable homes. I would advise new comers looking for vacant land, to first inspect the southern part of the county.

The towns and post offices of Thurston, are Olympia, Grand Mound, Independence, Little Rock, Seatco, Tenino, Tumwater and Yelm.

MASON

County lies west of Thurston and north of Chehalis counties; it is not a large county, and is very sparsely settled.

Almost the entire county is heavily timbered, and logging is the main industry. A great part of this county is yet unsurveyed, so the land seeker can here have his pick and choice of vacant land, and no doubt there are plenty of fine locations along some of the many creeks and smaller streams.

Oakland is the county seat, the other towns are Arcadia, Clifton, Dewatto, Kamilche, Shelton and Skokomish.

JEFFERSON

County lies north of Mason and a part of Chehalis counties, and its western boundary is the Pacific ocean.

It is also like Mason, very heavily timbered, but is a much larger and wealthier county. Over half of the western part is

yet unsurveyed, and a great part of it unexplored by white men.

Jefferson county is noted for its large saw mills, three of which are among the largest on Puget Sound. The first one of importance is the Port Discovery mill, located in 1856 on a bay of that name near the entrance to the sound, and owned by a California company. In 1882 the building occupied a space of 27,000 square feet, to which large additions were made since.

Extensive additions were also made in the machines, which makes the present cutting capacity about 120,000 feet per day.

In 1882, twenty-four vessels were loaded at this mill for coast and foreign ports. The company own the powerful tug S. L. Mastic, the ship War Hawk, the bark Mary Glover, and the brig Mary Glover.

The Port Townsend mill is next in size and cutting capacity. This mill has a capacity of 150,000 a day, or the combined capacity of the two mills is 270,000 feet of lumber per day.

The next and largest of the three mills in Jefferson county is the Port Ludlow mill. This splendid structure is one of the properties of the Puget Sound Mill Company, and as there are a great many mills on the sound of about the same size and capacity as the Port Ludlow mill, we will give a brief description of the latter mill, and that will answer for all the rest. The mill building is 65x43 feet, two stories high, the first being 16 feet 6 inches high, the second 16 feet. The boiler house and engine room is 49x65 feet and contains fifteen boilers, six of which are 36 inches in diameter. The fire fronts face each other, the smoke being conveyed by an archway to the smoke-stack, which is 101 feet high, with a base of 14 feet 6 inches and a flue 6x6 feet the entire length. There are two engines; one with a 24x36 inch cylinder and the other a Corliss engine with a cylinder 20x30 inches. The shafts and fly wheels attached to these engines are of corresponding dimensions. A double acting pump with engine combined, furnishes water to

the boilers. The first story of the mill contains the necessary counter-shafts to which is attached the machinery in the upper story, together with chutes to carry the sawdust to the furnace and the slabs and trimmings to a distance of 300 feet or more from the mill to be burned.

In the first story are also two large surface planers for preparing dock plank, flooring, rustic, etc.

In the second story of the mill, the machinery consists of three large horizontal circular saws and one vertical saw to be used in cutting large logs without additional labor. The carriages are 103 feet long and are set on trucks thirteen inches in diameter fitted to a track of two inch round iron, propelled by wire rope or cable gear, head blocks of Robb's patent with a ratchet lever. The logs in passing the circular are carried on live rollers eighty-five feet to a chain haul over and placed on similar rollers, then passing through one of the celebrated Week's pony gang saws if required, or they pass from the circular 170 feet to a gang edger or scantling machine, and being trimmed and assorted are placed on a receiver over a hoisting machine, by which the lumber is raised to cars placed under it and carried on tramways to any desired part of the wharf, to which vessels of any draft can come with facility. Opposite the double circular or frame containing the four saws, is a live gang saw with equal improved facilities, rollers, hoisting machines, etc., by which lumber can be moved to other machines by the mere application of the sawyer's hand, or by pulling a lever.

There are two filing rooms 12x25 over the boiler house, and an additional structure 16x50 feet provides room for the lath machines.

About 4,000,000 feet of lumber and 400,000 shingles were used in the construction of this mill, the cutting capacity of which will reach 250,000 feet per day.

This is one of the very largest mills on Puget Sound, or in the world, so far as I know.

Besides these three mills as described above, there are of

course many small ones in Jefferson county, employing altogether, hundreds of men.

The towns and postoffices of Jefferson county, are Port Townsend, the county seat; Port Ludlow, Port Discovery, Hadlock, Irondale, Leland and Quilcene.

KING

County lies on the east side of Puget Sound north of Pierce county, and contains Seattle, the queen city of Puget Sound. It has a population of about 8500, and is in every respect a live, pushing city; an immense amount of shipping is done, the greater part of which is lumber.

The northeastern part of King county is mountainous. King county is drained by several small rivers; among them are White River, Green River, Duamish River, Cedar River, and Snoqualmie River. There are yet many fine locations for home seekers along these streams, especially along the latter. Nearly all of King county is heavily timbered, and especially so along the Sound. The towns and post offices of King county are: Seattle, county seat; Adelaide, Bellevue, Black Diamond, Christopher, Cherry Valley, Donnelly, Duamish, Enumclaw, Falls City, Franklin, Green River, Houghton, Juanita, Kent, Maple Valley, New Castle, Novelty, Osceola, Redmond, Slaughter, Snoqualmie, Squak, Stuck, Sunnysdale, Tolt, Vashon, White River, and Woodinville.

There are two large sawmills in Seattle, but most all the rest that are scattered through the county are small.

KITSAP

County lies directly west of King county, and north of Mason county. It is a very small county. The main body of Puget Sound lies between King and Kitsap counties; while on the western border of Kitsap is Hood's Canal, a fine body of water; and on the north is Admiralty Inlet. So it will be seen that Kitsap county is almost surrounded by water. Kitsap county is noted for its several large sawmills. First is the Blakely mill,

which lies directly opposite Seattle, distant about seven miles ; and closely connected socially and commercially. These are considered one of the sights which the tourist ought not to miss seeing.

From the electric lights which make the short days of winter ample for a full quota of work down to the minutest detail of the vast establishment, everything that money and business capacity can suggest, is added to the working force of these great mills.

The mill company own the following fleet : tug Blakely ; ship Topgallant, capacity of 1,000,000 feet ; ship Otago, 700,000 feet ; bark Martha Rideout, 700,000 feet ; bark Lizzie Marshall, 550,000 feet ; bark R. K. Ham, 750,000 ; and schr. Courser, 525,000 feet.

The cutting capacity of the Blakely mills is an average of 175,000 a day. The Port Madison mill is situated a few miles north of the Blakely mill, and also on east side of the county, next to the Sound. This extensive establishment comes to the front with an average daily output of 125,000, and challenges comparison with any mill on the Sound in completeness of detail and appointment.

PORT GAMBLE MILL.

This is another of the properties of the Puget Sound Mill Co., located near the northern end of the county on Admiralty Inlet, and in the extent of its operations and the perfection of its appointments falls but little (if any) short of any other establishment devoted to similar purposes on the Sound. Its cutting capacity is about 150,000 feet per day.

The Seabeck mill is situated on Hood's Canal, an arm of the Sound—which, in any country but this, would be considered a magnificent inland sea of itself ! The cutting capacity of this mill is 200,000 feet per day. Here we have four sawmills in one little county, the combined cutting capacity of which is 650,000 feet of lumber per day—that, sold at \$9.00 per M feet rough lumber, would bring \$5850 a day ! But fully one-third

of this lumber is planed and finished, and as such, brings about \$18 per M feet. It will be seen that it takes a great many men to run these four mills.

Port Madison is the county seat of Kitsap county, and the other towns and post-offices are: Blakely, Colby, Mitchel, Nebbieville, Olalla, Port Gamble, Poulsbo, Sackman, Seabeck and Sidney.

CLALLAM

County lies north of Jefferson, and its western boundary is the Pacific ocean, its eastern boundary is an arm of Jefferson county, while its northern boundary is the strait of Juan de Fuca. Clallam county also lies directly south of Vancouver Island, separated only by the strait mentioned.

The western and southern parts of this county is mountainous. There is some fine country in the northern and eastern parts of the county.

A great portion of the county is yet unsurveyed, but anyone can take a squatters right and settle on the land and stay until it is surveyed.

This county has seventeen small rivers and creeks, but none are very large; five of them flow west and empty into the Pacific ocean, and twelve flow north and empty into the strait of Juan de Fuca.

The county seat is New Dungeness, situated in the extreme northeastern part of the county; the rest of the towns and post offices are Crescent Bay, Neah Bay, Port Angeles, Pysht, Quil-layute, Seguin and Tatoosh.

ISLAND

County is, as its name implies, an island, situated in the northern part of Puget Sound; the island is about twenty-five miles long and from three to ten miles wide. Of the character of the country I know very little, as I have never traveled over this county; neither can I state whether there is any vacant land or not.

The county seat is Coupeville. It has but few other towns and post offices, but I will give them so that if any of my readers are interested in this county and think they would like to live on a small island surrounded by salt water, they can address a letter of inquiry to the post masters of these little burghs, when no doubt they will receive the desired information. They are as follows: Oak Harbor, Phinney, Useless and Utsaladdy.

SAN JUAN

County lies between Skagit county on the east and Vancouver's Island, British Columbia, on the west, and consists of nothing but a few very small islands; the most important of which are San Juan, Orcas, Stewart and Lopez.

On Orcas Island there are several small improved farms, where they raise immense crops of oats and vegetables, while some of the smaller islands not named here, are devoted to sheep and goat raising, as the small ones are generally very rough and rocky, and not fit for agriculture, while by putting a drove of sheep on them, there is no danger of them straying off and getting lost, as these little islands are very small, containing all the way from twenty to two hundred acres each, and surrounded by the deep and salty water of Puget Sound.

It is a fact, that several of these little islands, are owned by as many different men, that is to say, each man owns his own little island, and he can truthfully say, like Robinson Cruso, "I am monarch of all I survey."

Friday Harbor is the county seat of San Juan county, the other post offices are Doe Bay, East Sound, Lime Kiln, Orcas Island, Lopez Island, Roche Harbor and Waldron.

This is all I can say of San Juan county. We will now examine

SNOHOMISH

County which lies due north of King and south of Skagit counties, and like these two counties, lies on the east side of Puget Sound, while its eastern boundary is the Cascade range

of mountains. Of Snohomish county we will give a more comprehensive description, as I have traveled considerably over this county, and lived in the county seat for a period of two months; besides I have been aided considerably by Mr. Clayton H. Packard, editor of a spicy newspaper published in Snohomish City, and entitled *The Eye*, and Mr. Packard's "Eye" manages to catch everything of importance going on in Snohomish county.

"*The Eye*" is \$2 a year in advance and well worth the money.

Isolated from present through routes of travel, few people, not long residents of Puget Sound, hear or know much of Snohomish county, its prospects or resources; yet it is doubtful if any other part of the sound country can be named, which, in the past, has been more valuable as a tributary to the growth of Seattle, than this county. How valuable an auxiliary it promises to be towards maintaining such growth hereafter, may be judged by the following statement:

Snohomish county is sixty-five miles long east and west, and thirty-six miles wide north and south. The county has an area of about 2500 square miles, or 1,600,000 acres. Of this area, about one-third is mountainous, one-third fertile marsh or bottom land, and the rest upland sufficiently level to be cultivated when the timber is once removed.

Nearly all of the mountain land is covered with valuable timber, and over one-half of it is fertile, and should the timber be removed, valuable for hay or pasturage.

Considering both soil and climate, one acre of marsh or bottom land here has a productive value equal to three acres of Iowa or Illinois prairie.

The agricultural value of the upland will average about one-half that of the low lands. Most of the upland is covered with timber, which costs too much to pay for clearing it expressly for agricultural purposes. But forest fires annually burn over many thousand acres of such land, and there are also many thousand acres of old logging works, partially

cleared, making excellent pasture, which now will pay to finish clearing for farming purposes. In the county, of these old burns and logging works, there are not less than from 200,000 to 300,000 acres, partially cleared, that will pay to improve for farming purposes. Of these fully 50,000 acres now furnish excellent pasturage nine months out of each year. With the increase of logging and the extension of settlements, the amount will be double during the next five years at the present rate of increase.

During the past twenty-five years, logging has been a leading industry of this county. Perhaps more logs have been cut within the county than anywhere else on Puget Sound.

In 1860, logging began on salt water, and during the next five years extended up the rivers. In all, fully 1,000,000,000 or more logs have been cut in this county; and for several years past, the output has exceeded 75,000,000 feet per annum. At present there are about 1,000,000 acres of land covered with fir and cedar timber. As much of this will yield 20,000,000 feet per section; with individual claims on which from 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 feet of fir timber fit for logging purposes, can be found standing on 160 acres of land, it is safe to estimate the timber still standing within the county as amounting to the total of from 5,000,000,000 to 10,000,000,000 feet board measure, of what would make merchantable saw logs. It may be stated generally, that throughout the Puget Sound country, wherever fossiliferous rocks exist near the surface, we may look for coal, and wherever non-fossiliferous rocks come to the surface, iron, copper, lead, gold and silver ore may be found. This rule will especially apply to this county. No quartz mills have ever been established and no coal mines opened and worked; yet from the general formation of the strata, as well as from the prospecting already done here, it is safe to say that very extensive and valuable deposits of coal, iron, lead, copper, gold and silver are found within the county, besides building stone, marble, limestone, etc. In nearly every stream, placer gold has been found, while the Sultan river, a

stream tributary to the Skykomish branch of the Snohomish river, and situated some twenty miles east of Snohomish City has yielded more gold during the past twenty years than has been found on all other Puget Sound streams put together. Further up the Skykomish is another tributary stream called Silver Creek. On this stream and near it are found ledges or lodes of galena and silver bearing quartz.

This region has been prospected sufficient to establish quartz mills in that vicinity and make that a great quartz mining center. A strip from twenty to thirty miles in width along the west side of the county next to salt water, is generally level; that is, the upland is from two to three hundred feet above the level of the bottoms, and when this height is reached, the surface of the upland from stream to stream is that of a level plateau, sometimes marshy with fertile soil, except at the edges of these plateaus, where the descent to the bottoms is so abrupt as to cause all the cement and gravel to be washed out of the soil, leaving the less fertile elements at such places behind. The lower portions of all the main rivers in the county, appear to run through what were once arms of the sound, now filled with sediment from the mountains, and forming the fertile bottom lands along their banks.

The foothills begin from twenty to thirty miles east of salt water. These foothills are spurs from the main Cascade range of mountains, and generally extend east and west, with valleys and basins between.

As one goes to the eastward, these valleys become narrower, the basins smaller and the mountains more rugged until the summit of the main range is reached. In the first foothills are found lignite coal, higher up bituminous and near the summit where fossiliferous rocks present themselves one may expect to find croppings of anthracite coal.

The southern part of the county, together with the north-eastern part of King county, is drained by the Snohomish river and its tributaries, while the Stillaguamish river drains its northern part. Each of these streams fork or divide into two

branches, something over twenty miles above their mouths. The tributaries of the Stillaguamish are called North and South Forks; those of the Snohomish are called the Skykomish and the Snoqualmie rivers. The latter is really the main stream.

The greater part of the Snoqualmie river and its valley are situated in King county. Much of its trade and business centers at Snohomish. The present value of improved property, amount of trade, value of annual products, and number of people now residents of the Snoqualmie, about equal that of Stillaguamish valley. Therefore, the present trade and business of the valley of the Snohomish and its tributaries—most of which centers at Snohomish City—about equals the total trade of all of Snohomish county.

The Snohomish valley first became generally known during the Indian war of 1855-6, when it was occupied by the Northern Battalion, Washington territory militia. Its settlement began in 1858. The first settlers (few of whom came before 1860) were soldiers of this battalion and returned Frazer-river miners.

Muckilteo was settled by Frost and Fowler about this time. The county was organized in 1861, but no white women came here before 1863, and none to stay before 1864. The settlement on the Stillaguamish began about 1864. Prior to 1870, there were not over twenty white women in the county; since then, most of the settlers have brought families. Now the total white population exceeds 3000 with about 500 Indians. Nearly all the Indians are in employ of the farmers and loggers, and thus add to the wealth of the county. The settlements are distributed mainly along salt water and up the Snohomish and Stillaguamish valleys.

The south line of the county is twelve miles north of Seattle. Edmunds, ten miles south of Mukilteo, and two miles north of the King county line, is the business center of the southwest part of the county. It possesses a fine view up and down Admiralty Inlet. There are some good lands in its vicinity.

Mukilteo is now mainly supported by the salmon fishery and some farming lands in its vicinity. In early days it was an important business center.

Stanwood, at the mouth of the Stillaguamish, is the leading town in the northwestern part of the county, and the center of the trade of the Stillaguamish tide flats.

Florence, on the river some five miles above Stanwood, is a thriving town, dividing with Stanwood the trade of the northern part of Snohomish county.

On Snohomish river, business centers are Snohomish City, Lowell and Marysville. During the past three years a number of persons have settled north of Marysville, and this place has also increased greatly in size and business importance. It controls the trade of the lower river. Comford, the townsite proprietor, is also improving several hundred acres of tide-marsh land in the vicinity.

Lowell is on the main river, halfway between Snohomish City and the mouth of the river.

Snohomish City—the county seat and chief business center of Snohomish county—contains a resident population of about 800 people, with from two to three hundred more loggers, who winter here and make this place their headquarters, but work in the woods in the summer. The town has about 150 families, one Methodist and one Presbyterian church, numerous secret and benevolent societies, two good hotels, one newspaper, two butcher shops, a half dozen or more stores, etc. Upwards of 2000 people do nearly all their trading here, and the total local and export trade of the place exceeds one million dollars per annum.

Except on the Stillaguamish tide-flats, until recently nearly all agricultural products of the county consisted of live-stock, vegetables and hay, nearly all of which were sold to and used in the many logging-camps of the county. The tide-flats sold annually about 30,000 bushels of oats. For the past year the produce of the county may be summarized as follows: About 10,000 tons of hay, raised on 4000 acres of land; 100,000

bushels of oats, raised on 1500 acres of land; 15,000 bushels of wheat and barley, etc., raised on 300 acres; 170,000 bushels of potatoes, raised on 600 acres of land. The total value of other products—fruits and vegetables—would exceed \$100,000. There are in the county over 6000 horses and cattle, and as many more sheep and hogs. Exclusive of pasturage, there are about 10,000 acres of land in cultivation.

Most residents of Puget Sound are willing to assume that within the next generation, the resources of all this region will be as well developed as they now are in any of the Eastern States! What will then be the status of Snohomish county? With an area over one half as great as that of the state of Connecticut, with a soil and climate so superior to that state, that if equally developed, with manufactures, mining, etc., in proportion, its annual products may be expected to equal in value the whole now annually produced in that state!

The towns and postoffices of Snohomish county, are Snohomish City, county seat; Edmunds, Florence, Lowell, Marysville, Mukilteo, Stanwood, Stillaguamish, Sultan City, Tualco and Tulalip.

This ends our sketch of Snohomish county; except we may say, that a railroad is under course of construction to connect Snohomish City with Seattle, which will greatly enhance the value of land in this county. We will now proceed to give a brief description of

SKAGIT COUNTY.

This county lies directly north of Snohomish county, extending the same distance east and west. Its western boundary is the salt waters of Puget Sound, its eastern boundary the Cascade range of mountains, and its northern boundary is Whatcom county. Skagit county is a new county, at least in name.

In 1883, Whatcom county being a very large one, and at that time it had only two important towns, Whatcom and La Conner, the one situated in the northern part of the county and the other in the southern part, and Whatcom being the county

seat, it was too far and inconvenient for the people residing in the southern part of the county to go to Whatcom to attend court, or any other official business, so the county was split in two from east to west, the southern half being called Skagit, as that is the name of the most important river in the county. Skagit is undoubtedly a fine country, and especially beautiful in the vicinity of La Conner, the county seat. The land is not only beautiful in location, but it is as rich and fertile as any land on the Pacific Coast, not even excepting the very richest spots in the famed Willamette Valley of Oregon.

It is what is called marsh land, and about 5000 acres in one body has been diked in, which means building a levy, the same as is done along the lower Mississippi river, to keep the water from overflowing it. This land has no stumps or trees on it, and it is as level as a table. Oats is the main crop raised on it, but of course it will and does raise vegetables, unsurpassed in size and quality. While the average amount of oats raised is ninety bushels to the acre and will generally weigh 42 pounds to the bushel. This land, highly improved as it is, will take money to get it. Some of the farmers owning this land have refused \$100 an acre for it, while it is doubtful if any of it can be bought for \$50 an acre. And why should they not hold such land at a higher figure, when it has no superior in fertility in the United States; and lying as it does in a country possessed with a fine, salubrious climate, free from malaria or other troublesome complaints; in a country where earthquakes, cyclones, blizzards, chinch bugs and drouths are unknown; in a country situated on the finest inland body of water in the world, where the largest ships can float in safety, and carry away with them the bountiful products of this fair land to the ports of the foreign world.

Now in the same county, as also in Snohomish and Whacom counties, there is plenty of this same kind of land that is yet unimproved, and lying here waiting for some energetic men with money, brains and energy, to come here and make it "blossom as the rose."

A great portion of this land is owned by private parties who will sell it reasonable in its wild state, and there is yet many fine tracts of such land still lying vacant in all three of the counties mentioned. Potatoes and vegetables here reach a degree of perfection not to be excelled.

A home market exists in the supply of the numerous logging camps located along the river. Hay is worth \$18 a ton, and three tons to the acre is the average yield, while potatoes are worth \$1.50 per sack, and other products in like proportion. During the past year a considerable number of settlers have located in this county and others are coming, and still others are needed; though there is no room for bums, bachelors or speculators. There yet remains open for settlement a valley twenty-five miles in length and from one to two miles in width. Here the farmer might find a home for himself and family, possessing at the same time the fundamental basis of all successful agricultural operations, viz: a good soil. The mild and salubrious breezes of the springtime, the summer sun, making our valley rich and like a lilly in full bloom, a magnificent arena spreading before the view a vast amphitheater of endless green, all combine to hail with delight the advent of the adventurous settler.

The Bennett-Mackey postal telegraph line crosses the valley about five miles from Stanwood, and the Bellingham Bay railway line is located to cross the valley about twelve miles from the above mentioned place, though it is exceedingly probable that it will be built further up the river. The completion of this line, connecting as it will California and British Columbia, will give this valley, and the county as well, every advantage enjoyed by the older settled valleys of the territory; hence it is imperative that the intending settler should not defer making his location as the time will quickly come, when "many shall seek to enter in and shall not be able."

Towns and postoffices of Skagit county, are as follows: La Conner, county seat; Anacortes, Avon, Bay View, Birdsvew, Blanchard, Deception, Edison, Fir, Fidalgo, Guemes,

Hamilton, Lyman, Mt. Baker, Mt. Vernon, Padilla, Prairie, Samish, Sauk, Sedro, Skagit and Sterling. We now enter upon a description of

WHATCOM

County, last but not least on our list of Washington Territory counties. It is the extreme northwestern county of the territory. Its northern boundary is the British Columbia line, its eastern, the Cascade range and Moses Reservation, its western, Bellingham Bay and the Gulf of Georgia. Its most important river is the Nooksack, rising away up in the Cascade range and emptying into Bellingham Bay.

County Surveyor Iverson informs the *Whatcom Reveille*, that in the north fork of the Nooksack valley, there is the finest body of agricultural lands in the territory. The valleys which are three in number, are several miles in length, and from two to five miles in width, and cover an area equivalent to an entire township. The greater portion of this unsettled and undeveloped section yet remains unsurveyed. The soil is said to be equal to the South Fork soil, and the land can be more readily cleared; besides the north and middle forks of the Nooksack river, mountain streams and spring brooks permeate the valleys, affording an abundance of water for all purposes. In the section known as the North Valley, as yet without a settler, there exists a chain of beautiful lakes, varying in size from 100 to 800 acres in extent, with broad bottom land extending from the lake shores back to the foot of the mountains, which extend up from either side of the valley. Mr Iverson is of the opinion that 100 or more families could find desirable locations in this section of Whatcom county as soon as the land can be surveyed and placed upon the market for homestead and pre-emption entries. There are a few squatters now in the valley who propose to remain and perfect title after the land has been surveyed. A county road has been granted and will be opened to the forks of the river and to North Valley, about 30 miles east of Whatcom.

One peculiarity of the Puget Sound region, is the diversified

character of the soil, it frequently happening, that on a quarter section of land you will find almost as many and diverse kinds of soil as there are parti-colored squares in a patch work quilt. These different soils may be properly classified and distinguished, the one from the other, according to their several peculiarities as follows:

First—The sandy loam on the river bottom lands, proper. This soil is quick, warm and finely and generally well adapted to the production of grasses, grains, fruits, vegetables and hops.

Second—We have the clay loam, which occupies considerable areas in certain localities, notably on the northern border of the marshy prairie to the north of Linden, in Whatcom county. This is a strong soil, wearing well and possibly adapted to as wide a range of productions, only somewhat inferior to the sandy loam in natural warmth and in average producing qualities. In the estimation of some, however, and for what they conceive to be good reasons, it is thought to be superior to the sandy loam.

Third—We have the red lands which are generally found covered with a growth of fir, sometimes heavy, and which by the actual experiment of raising a variety of crops has been demonstrated to be, in contradistinction to such lands in other localities, not only immensely productive, but with a wide and as yet not fully determined range of adaptation to diversity of products. It combines in itself, and in its power to produce, fertility, durability and diversity.

Fourth—We have a soil claimed by some to be not only the most fertile, but the most perfectly adapted to the widest range of products, cereals, fruits, vegetables, grasses, hops, onions, etc., it is called the beaver dam land. This seems to be a composite of the different soils which the ingenious and industrious beaver in constructing their numerous and extensive dams in our marshes and across our streams, have dug up and mixed together in at least comparatively proportioned quantities. These lands in places comprise areas of hundreds of acres. Warmth, fertility, durability and diversity

indicate the chief characteristic of this choice and unique variety of soil.

Whatever may be either the relative or actual value of the beaver dam lands, as compared with other soils, certain it is that they are by universal consent conceded to be superior in every respect to all other lands, probably on the philosophical principal, that the whole is equal to all its parts and consequently greater than or superior to any individual part. The land seeker and buyer will certainly not go amiss in investing his money in as much of this land as he may be able to buy.

A fifth and last variety of soil in the order named—but now in the opinion of its admirers and champions—is the peat lands, so called from the fact that it is almost if not quite, in appearance and in combustible qualities, a fac simile of the peat lands of Europe; and is, in fact, what its nature implies—composed of decayed vegetable matter which for countless centuries has been building from successive deposits, as the numerous forms of vegetation have sprung up, died and decayed—passing through the various stages from purely vegetable matter to soil. Thorough drainage and careful cultivation have not as yet satisfactorily demonstrated the actual value of this soil as to fertility, durability or diversity. Still, it is the candid and unbiased opinion of the most intelligent men and observers in the community, that the peat land will not suffer by comparison with any of the soils named in the foregoing article, and is vastly superior to some of them. It is the general opinion, amply confirmed by experience up to date, that these lands are especially adapted to grasses; and that consequently, the marsh prairie or peat lands to the northward of Lynden—owing to this fact, as well as the largely open character of the land, and the ease with which the remainder may be cleared—is destined to be, par excellence, the great stock region of Puget Sound and Whatcom county.

A feature of special significance and satisfaction in regard to these various soils, is that each individual may take his choice;

and while one, for what he thinks substantial reasons, may choose the sandy loam of the river bottoms ; another, the clay or the red lands ; and still another, the beaver-dam or the peat—it is all utilized, and every one is abundantly satisfied.

Upon and out of these marvelously fertile soils, as a solid and enduring material basis, is destined to be built up a civil commonwealth—a society and a civilization at one and the same time—wealthy, patriotic, cultured and progressive.—[Notes from *Whatcom Reveille*.]

The towns and post-offices of Whatcom county are : Whatcom, county seat ; Beach, Bellingham, Birch View, Blaine, Custer, Delta, Ferndale, Gera, Hillsdale, Licking, Lummi, Lynden, Nooksack, Park, Roeder, Sehome, Semiahmo, West Ferndale, Woodlawn and Yager.

This now concludes my descriptive review of Washington Territory ; and I feel confident that any one buying this book and perusing its contents, will get the worth of their dollar.

I now conclude my work by giving a very brief review of the City of Portland, the metropolis of the Northwest :

What is known as Portland lies on the west side of the Willamette river, about twelve miles from its mouth, and now has a population of something near 40,000 people. Although the forty-second city in size, it is claimed to be the third richest city in the United States, as compared to size !

You can buy anything in the city of Portland that you could buy in Chicago ! There are over a dozen papers published in the city, the leading one being the *Oregonian*. It is a newspaper in every sense of the word, and contains the weekly news from every quarter of the globe. The *Portland News*, under its new management, is rapidly coming to the front as a live, progressive paper.

There are also ten or twelve regular job printing offices, where book and job printing of every kind is done. The city has manufactories of various sorts, also stove and iron foundries. It also has over twenty churches, every denomination being

well represented. It has also two good colleges, and numerous public and private schools, while its fire department is the pride of the city. At night the streets are as well patrolled by as large and powerful a set of policemen as any city can boast. They are all large, resolute men—one of them, officer Henline by name—weighing 320 pounds! and yet very spry on foot, as lots of the rogues and toughs of Portland can testify to.

As for hotels, there are at least twenty of them, three of which are first-class; but I would recommend immigrants to stop at the INTERNATIONAL, as there you will be made to “feel at home,” and your every want attended to, while the table is supplied with the very best that the market affords; and all cooked by white labor, as no Chinese are employed in the house; you also get good clean beds—all at \$1.00 a day.

Directly opposite the city of Portland is East Portland, separated only by the broad Willamette, yet easy of access to and fro by four steam ferries, located at different points along the river; and also by two bridges, one of them just completed the past summer, the other one now rapidly nearing completion.

The suburbs of Albina, St. John's, Selwood and Milwaukie, are all lively little places, all convenient to Portland.

Portland is the main shipping point of the Northwest, and ships from every part of the civilized world anchor at her docks. I have counted over three hundred vessels, great and small, all lying at the wharves of Portland, on one day.

It has been no light task to compile, arrange and write this work; to sift fact from fiction, and give to my Eastern friends and readers a work that I candidly believe will be the means of saving you many dollars, and many weeks of travel and research to get yourself suitably located, should you come to this country.

Should you come to this country with no fixed idea of what particular county or locality you expected to search over for a home; and should you bring your family, you would have to leave them at some hotel in Portland, or some other town, while you looked over the country. All this would cost money;

and should you devote three months to steady and continued travel, even then you would not be as well informed as you would be after reading this little book.

The author of this little work has spent six years of continued travel over all the counties of Western Oregon and Western Washington, from the California line to the British Possessions; and in the occupation of a canvassing agent, my traveling was done on foot—a mode of travel that gave me every opportunity to see and closely observe the country through which I passed; and I have visited nearly every city, town, village or hamlet from California to New Westminster, British Columbia.

The greater part of this work is taken from my own personal observations; and for the rest, I am indebted to other parties for placing in my hands the desired information.

I am under obligations to the *Oregonian* chiefly, and some little to the *Coos County Herald*, as also the *Snohomish Eye*. But to the best of my knowledge, everything in this work can be depended upon as being strictly reliable and trustworthy information.

I do not own a foot of land either in Oregon or Washington. I am not interested in any railroad company or immigration bureau. I wrote this work for two purposes, viz: to make a few dollars in the sales of my book, and to give to people of the Eastern and Northern States information that I believe is desired by, and will be of much benefit to them.

No other Railway in the Northwest

has in so short a period gained the reputation and popularity enjoyed by the **WISCONSIN CENTRAL LINE**. From a comparatively unknown factor in the commercial world, it has been transformed to an independent, influential, grand **Through Route**, with magnificent depots, superb equipment and unsurpassed terminal facilities. Through careful catering to details, it has won for itself a reputation for solidity, safety, convenience and attention to its patrons, second to no railroad in the country.

Pullman sleepers, models of palatial comfort, dining cars in which the cuisine and general appointments are up to the highest standard, and coaches especially built for this route, are among the chief elements which have contributed towards catering successfully to a discriminating public. Located directly on its line, between **Minneapolis** and **St. Paul**, and **Milwaukee** and **Chicago**, and **Duluth** and **Milwaukee** and **Chicago**, are the following thriving cities of Wisconsin and Michigan: **New Richmond**, **Chippewa Falls**, **Eau Claire**, **Ashland**, **Hurley, Wis.**, **Ironwood, Mich.**, **Bessemer, Mich.**, **Stevens Point**, **Neenah**, **Menasha**, **Oshkosh**, **Fond du Lac**, **Waukesha**, and **Burlington, Wis.**

For detailed information, lowest current rates, berths, etc., via this route, to any point in the **South** or **East**, apply to nearest Ticket Agent, or address

WM. S. MELLEN, **JAMES BARKER,**
Genl. Manager, Genl. Passr. & Ticket Agt.
MILWAUKEE.

Geo. S. Batty, General Western Agent.
No. 1½ Washington st., Portland, Oregon.

Real Estate Notice.

Our list of Real Estate is large and carefully selected (exclusive sale of a great part of it). We are constantly looking up good bargains, and can at any time give buyers a great advantage.

We have desirable lots for sale in all parts of the city and its suburbs from \$100 per lot up to the choicest business and residence lots, acres improved and unimproved.

Dock Property.

We have some good property of this at low price.

Acre Property.

Suitable for platting, making some of the finest additions for Portland, East Portland and Albina.

Manufactures.

We will assist in furnishing manufacturers with building sites FREE and will enlist the assistance of resident capitalists to induce manufacturers to locate their plants in Portland. Financial assistance will be given in cases where manufacturers desire to turn their concerns into joint stock corporations.

Farm Lands.

We have in large or small tracts, suitable for fruit, stock raising, dairy, vegetable or grain farms, improved or unimproved, at prices lower than they will ever be offered again.

Timber Lands.

We have special facilities for handling timber lands in Oregon or Washington Territory.

Non-Residents.

We make safe and paying investments. Every investment made through us has returned the investor large profits and been perfectly satisfactory. We handle with equal care large or small investments either with or without taking an interest in the property.

Money

To loan in large or small sums.

All information cheerfully given.

HAIGHT & DONNER,

11½ Washington St., Portland, Or.

Valuable Information

Relative to a Stopping Place When You Come to Oregon.



THE INTERNATIONAL HOTEL.

After reading this pamphlet if you desire to migrate to Oregon, about the first thing you will think of is expenses necessarily to be incurred before reaching your final settlement. Among those expenses that of "hotel bills" always figures conspicuously. On this page you will find a perfect picture of the INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, and we are free to pronounce it the only first-class one dollar a day house in Portland. It is located within three blocks of all railroad and steamer landings, is in a beautiful portion of the city, and it is properly termed the "Home of the Traveler." And it virtually is a "home". Upon arriving in the city you are conveyed to the hotel free of charge; your baggage is cared for; you are provided with good rooms; fed with the best the markets can supply; you are given the most valuable information relative to all parts of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest; made thoroughly acquainted with all details that will be valuable to you, and you are charged only \$1 a day; no extra charges being made.

The International is to-day the most thoroughly popular hotel in the state, from the fact that Mr. Lewiston, the proprietor, makes it a study to see that all of his guests are not only treated well but that they are saved many a dollar in the way of information that proves of great value to them. We cheerfully recommend this house to those who may visit Portland on their way to the "Far West".

THE OREGON PACIFIC RAILROAD,

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

OREGON DEVELOPMENT CO.'S STEAMSHIP LINE,

Forms the Only Direct Route between

ALL POINTS IN CENTRAL  SOUTHERN OREGON;

AND SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

SHORTEST! SAFEST! CHEAPEST! BEST!

Swift and finely appointed steamers reaching all points between Portland and Harrisburg, a distance of 167 miles, ply the waters of the beautiful Willamette River which flows through the largest and most fertile valley in the Pacific Northwest.

At Albany on the east side, and Corvallis on the West, the river steamers connect with the Oregon Pacific trains, and the immigrant, sportsman or tourist seated in a luxurious coach finds himself rapidly whirled over a smooth, well-ballasted track the blue foothills of the Coast Range Mountains, through their grand canyons and past the lofty peaks that form a background of surpassing beauty to the lovely valleys which nestle in their shadows, on to the highly-cultivated fruit and dairy farms that skirt the head waters of the bay to that busy seaport

YAQUINA CITY,

Nature's Sanitarium, and the Only Fashionable Watering Place on the Coast of Oregon.

being also the point of embarkation for passengers to San Francisco via the A No. 1 STEAMSHIPS OF THE OREGON DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

In the country served by the river and rail lines of this Company are still homes for the million where a diversity of taste may be satisfied, not isolated, as is the case in the more newly settled regions, but within easy reach of the civilizing influence of fine schools, colleges, and churches:

"Better a century of Europe than a cycle of Cathay."

The leading papers proclaim, and the people admit, that since the opening of this new outlet for the productions of the valley—more direct than the old circuitous one via Portland, this Company by its wise and liberal policy in establishing just and reasonable charges has saved to the farmers over \$150,000 and to the merchants over \$75,000 during the season of 1886-7. And the advantages so far gained are but a foretaste of those which must flow from the completion of the Eastern division of this line.



G. A. STEEL & CO.,


GENERAL AGENTS

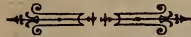
"ANGLO-NEVADA INSURANCE CORPORATION,"

—AND—

State Investment and Insurance Company,

DO A

Fire  Marine Business.




IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL

REAL ESTATE.

It will pay to correspond with or call upon us.

Our list of FARMING LANDS is the largest and most complete on the Northwest Coast.

 All information given by us will be reliable and trustworthy. Address,

G. A. STEEL & CO.,
No. 127½ First St., Portland, Oregon.



Partridge

Photograph Co.,

Opposite the Postoffice,

PORTLAND, OR.

All kinds of Work executed at reasonable rates.

VIEWS OF ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY

on hand constantly.



Send for Catalogues.

BAKER'S & HOTEL,

CHAS. BAKER, Proprietor,

Eugene City, - - Oregon.

This new three-story Brick Hotel is fire-proof,
and the best Hotel south of Portland.

Board, \$1.00 to \$2.00 per Day.

Special Rates to Immigrants.

Particular attention paid to Traveling Men. The
table will be supplied with the best
the market affords.



Free Coach to and from the House.



*It will pay all Farmers to call at the immense
warerooms of*

STAYER & WALKER,

New Market Block,

13 to 29 First St., and 12 to 28 Second St.,

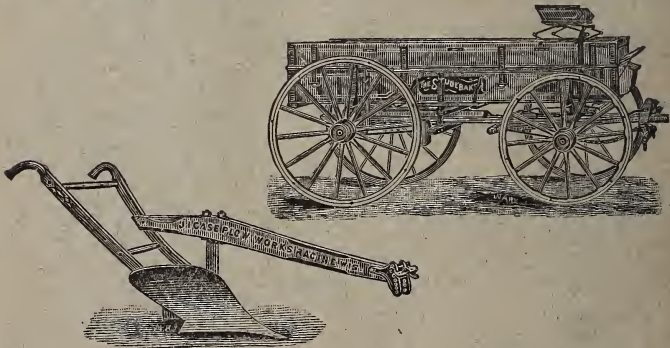
PORTLAND. : OREGON,

Where will be found the Largest and Most Complete Line of the very best and
latest improved

Farm, Dairy and Mill Machinery,

Wagons, Buggies, Carriages and Carts,

MACHINE SUPPLIES AND SPECIALTIES OF ALL KINDS,

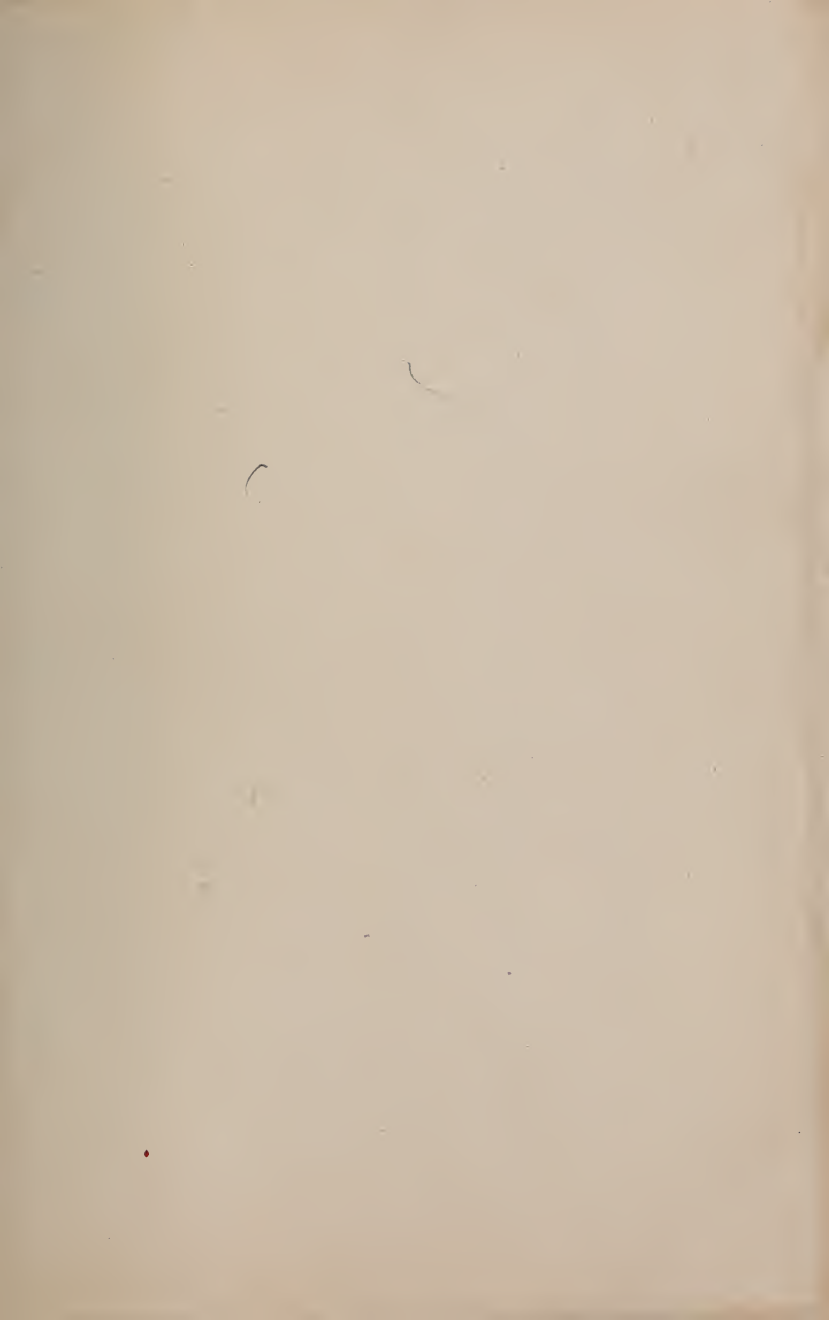


At the most favorable terms and prices, quality considered, of any firm on the
Coast.

All our goods are specially manufactured for use in this section by the oldest
and most reliable manufacturers in the United States, and we guarantee them
superior to any others of their class in the market.

Call and see us, or send for our handsomely illustrated Catalogues and
price lists, sent free on application.





LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 017 187 515 8

